More protests vs power bill passage seen

STORY ON PAGE A2

P15

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLES

JUNE 3, 2001 ★ 72 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 175

First Family flees Palace

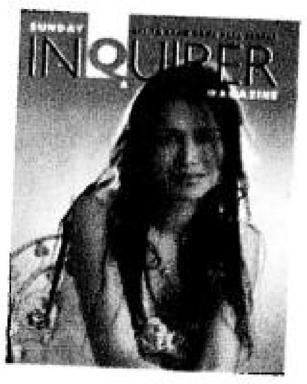
By J.L. Javellana

MALACAÑANG may be the nation's seat of power, but it was not spared the water service interruption that hit a

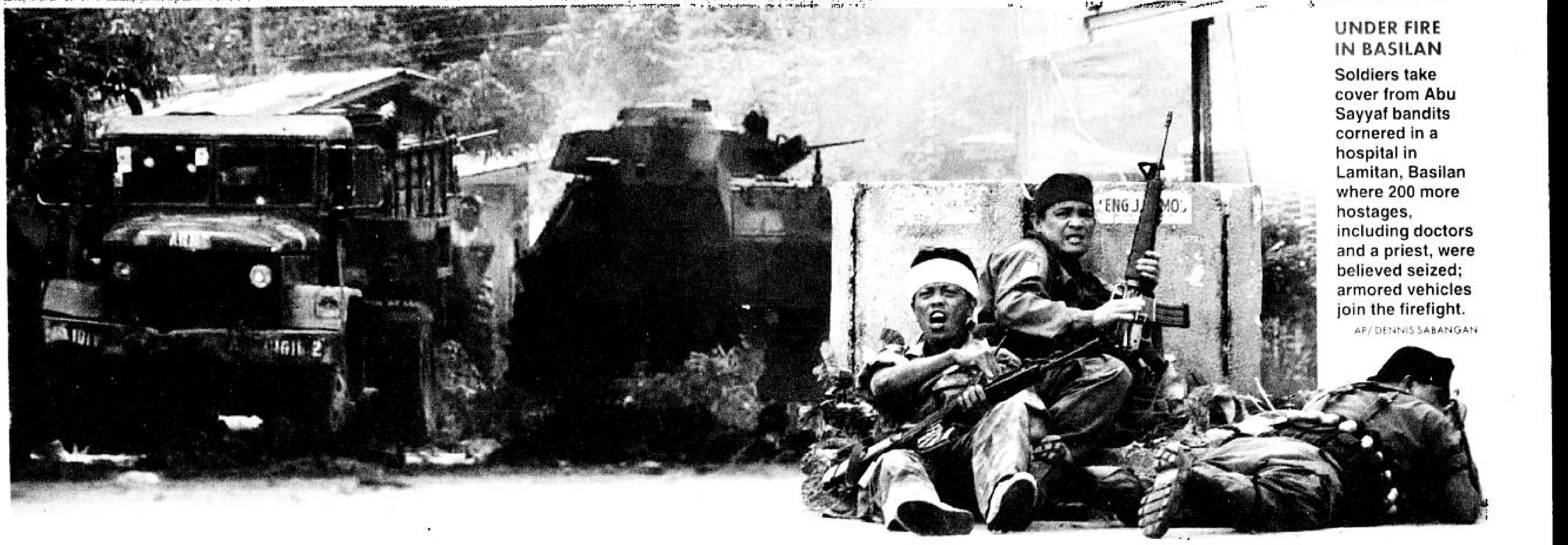
FIRST/ A18

TODAY IN THE

- Melanie Marquez, happy at last
- The spirit of Asin is alive
- Marc Logan off-camera



MARQUEZ



UNDER FIRE IN BASILAN Soldiers take cover from Abu Sayyaf bandits cornered in a hospital in Lamitan, Basilan where 200 more hostages, including doctors and a priest, were believed seized; armored vehicles join the firefight.

AP/ DENNIS SABANGAN

'We'll wipe them out'

Fighting rages as cornered bandits take 200 more hostages

By Juliet L. Javellana,
Dave Veridiano,
Julie Alipala-Inot
and Jonathan F. Ma

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo last night announced that she was envisioning the victory of the Armed Forces and Philippine National Police over the bandit group Abu Sayyaf, which, she said, had been "cornered" by government troops in Lamitan, Basilan.

In a message delivered in Filipino and aired simultaneously in all radio and TV stations at 6:30 p.m., the President urged the bandit group to immediately release its hostages and surrender, saying: "*Isang bala na lang kayo* (You are worth only one bullet)."

She said the military operations would continue, and that government forces would wipe out the bandits ("*Uubusin natin ang mga bandido*").

She also announced that four of the 17 Filipinos and three Americans that the Abu Sayyaf took hostage in the May 27 raid on the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan had been rescued in the course of the military operations in Lamitan. *(See story on this page.)*

As well, she said, 14 fishermen snatched by the bandits as they fled Palawan were now in the hands of the government.

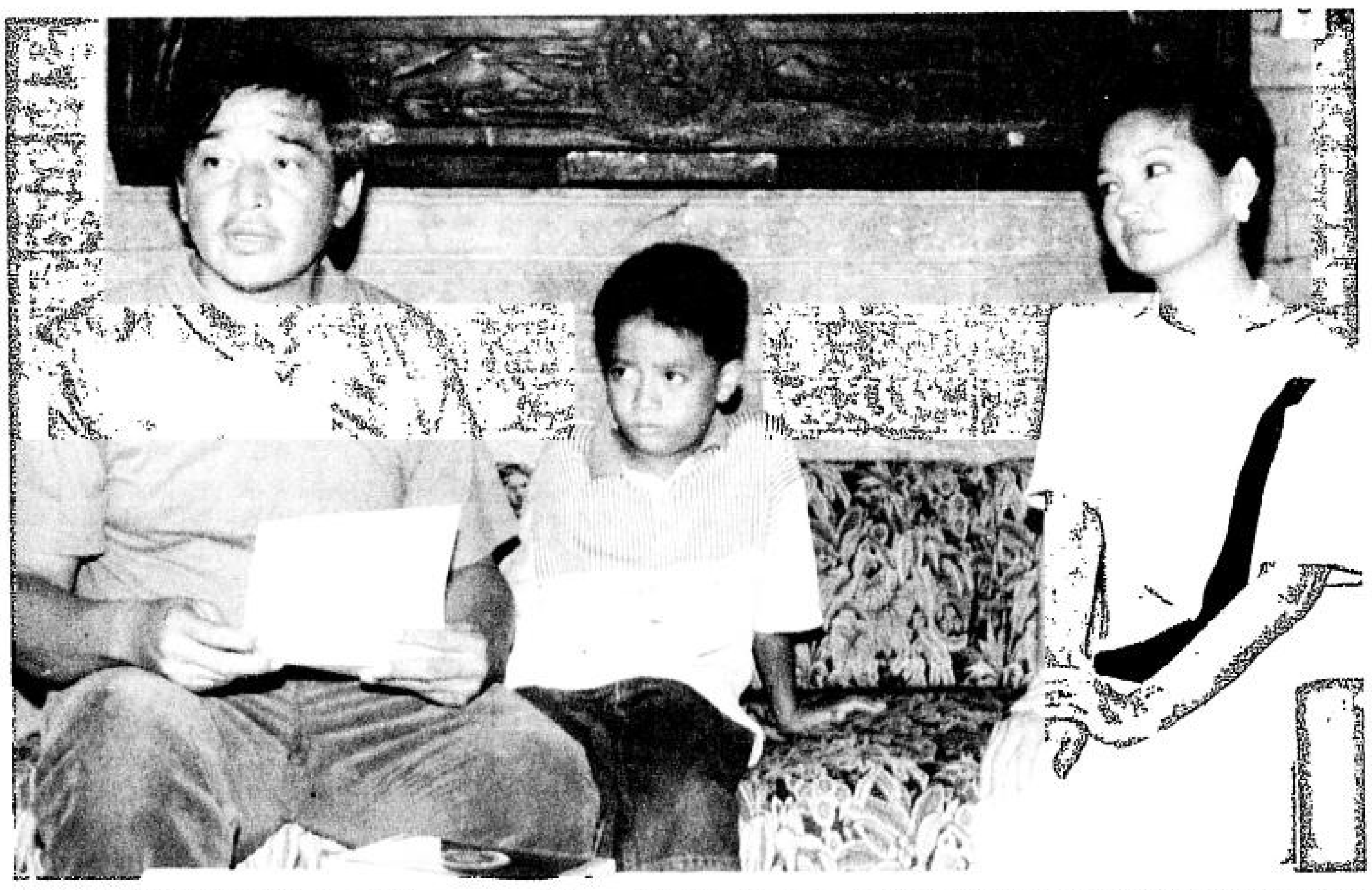
The President also cited reports that Abu Sayyaf chieftain Khadafy Janjalani had been killed and spokesperson Abu Sabaya injured in the fighting, but said the military was still verifying these.

Fierce street fighting broke out in Lamitan early yesterday as the bandits took over the St. Peter's Church and the Dr. Jose Maria Torres Hospital, and seized about 200 persons, including patients, church workers and residents.

The President said five soldiers and militiamen were killed and 36 others wounded in the firefight that started at 1 a.m.

An Abu Sayyaf commander identified as Yusup Ladjal was confirmed killed in

WE'LL/ A18



RESCUED FROM TERROR, Reghis Romero II and 8-year-old RJ Recio during a call on President Macapagal-Arroyo at Forbes Park after a week of captivity in the hands of the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

VAL HANDUMON

Suicide bomb attack kills 18 in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Israel—A suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowd of young Israelis waiting to enter a Tel Aviv disco, killing 17 and turning a festive beachfront promenade into a bloody nightmare of carnage and confusion.

It was by far the worst terrorist attack against Israel since fighting with the Palestinians erupted in September, and it raised the possibility of a strong Israeli retaliation against Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon discussed a possible response with his defense and foreign ministers Saturday morning, ahead of an emergency Cabinet session. The defense minister also consulted separately with the army chief.

Sharon adviser Raanan Gissin said Cabinet decisions would "restore security, but also leave open the door to peace."

The Palestinian Authority for its part condemned the attack and called for restraint, while the radical Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups, which have mounted previous suicide bomb attacks, refrained from claiming responsibility.

The explosion, heard for kilometers

SUICIDE/ A5

Property developer among 4 rescued

By Juliet Labog-Javellana,
Jonathan F. Ma and TJ Burgonio

"A MAN newly rescued from terror and captivity" was how property developer Reghis Romero II gratefully described himself yesterday at the end of his weeklong ordeal at the hands of Abu Sayyaf kidnappers.

His words must have sounded sweet to President Macapagal-Arroyo, who was hosting a dinner for visiting US Sen. Richard Lugar in Forbes Park in Makati, when three of four recovered hostages seized from a Palawan resort were presented to her briefly after being flown to Manila from Mindanao.

The three, 8-year-old RJ Recio, Romero and the latter's female companion, Maria Rizza Santos, escaped from their kidnappers early yesterday during a firefight between their captors and military troops at a hospital in Basilan. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

A fourth hostage, resort security guard Eldrin Morales, escaped Friday night with minor knife wounds to the left ear and neck despite an apparent attempt by his captors to hack him to death.

"I credit my freedom and that of my three fellow hostages to the full scale campaign launched by President Arroyo against the Abu Sayyaf and her policy to deny ransom to the dreaded terrorists," Romero said last night, reading a prepared statement outside the home of Ms Macapagal's parents in Forbes Park.

"By giving the terrorists no quarter, she has shown the nation that she is deter-

PROPERTY/ A18

ROYAL TRAGEDY: Nepalese King Birenda (second from left) with Crown Prince Dipendra (left) and the rest of the Nepalese royal family.

REUTERS

Nepal in shock after royal massacre

KATMANDU—Nepal's Crown Prince Dipendra, who killed his parents and six other members of his royal family and then turned the gun on himself, remained on a life-support system Saturday, according to government officials.

The government State Council, which oversees royal affairs in Nepal, named Prince Dipendra as king, after King Birendra, the queen and six others were slain and three others were injured.

As Prince Dipendra was declared clinically dead and remained on a life-support system at an army hospital Saturday, the State Council named his uncle, Prince Gyanendra, as acting king.

"Since the king passed away, the Council declared Crown Prince Dipendra as the king of Nepal. But since the Crown Prince is in the hospital and is mentally and physically unsuitable to carry out his duties, the State Council appoints Prince Gyanendra as assistant to the crown,"' said a statement by the State Council.

Crown Prince Dipendra, 29, shot all immediate members of the royal family late Friday night, including King Birendra, 55, Queen Aiswarya, 51, his brother and sister, Prince Nirajan, 22, and Princess Shruti, 24, who had two daughters.

The State Council confirmed that the others killed were Princess Sharada Shah and Princess Shanti Singh, both sisters of the King; Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, Princess Sharada's husband; and Princess Jayanti Shah, a cousin to the late king.

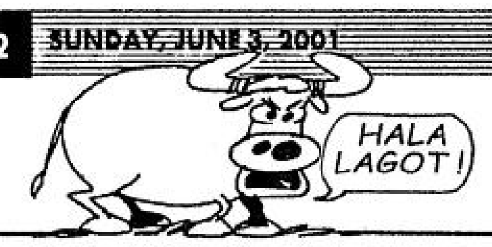
The Council said that three others were injured: Gorakh Bikram, Princess Shruti's husband; Komal Shah, the king's cousin; and Prince Dhirendra, the king's youngest brother.

They remained at the military hospital.

The bodies of the dead were to be taken in a procession from the army hospital later Saturday and cremated according to Hindu rites near a temple on the banks of the Bagmat River.

Deputy Prime Minister Ram Chandra Paudel called the family massacre "a national tragedy," and ruled out any involve-

NEPAL/ A17



Second FRONT PAGE

Protests vowed over power bill

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez and Donna S. Cueto

MILITANT and civil society groups vowed yesterday to meet the ratification of the Omnibus Power Reform Bill with an "electrifying" protest at the Senate on Monday, even as they called on legislators to cross party lines and junk the bill.

Thousands of members of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Bayan Muna, Freedom from Debt Coalition, Sanlakas, Akbayan and allied groups will take to the streets to denounce the railroading of the bill in the bicameral conference committee and to mount a last effort to convince legislators to scrap the "onerous" measure.

Bayan secretary general Teodoro Casiño said the groups were finalizing their protest plans for Monday as well as subsequent campaigns against the privatization of the power industry.

"This measure will have a very onerous effect on the people and it's an understatement to say that we at Bayan are disappointed over President Macapagal-Arroyo's extraordinary efforts to push the bill," Casiño said.

Farmers and fisherfolk from the Kalipunan ng Samahang Magsasaka ng Timog Katagalugan, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas and Pamalakaya will also join the march on Monday to protest what they called the "betrayal of the national patrimony."

In a joint statement, the militant groups dared members of the outgoing 11th Congress to cross party lines and truly represent the people.

'Peasant revolt'

"Congress is hereby forewarned of an upcoming 'peasant revolt' if it insists on pushing the diabolical bill," the statement said.

"A double whammy," was how Makati Rep. Joker Arroyo described a provision in the bill that would impose a "universal levy" on consumers, on top of the P200-billion debt that would be passed on to taxpayers.

Arroyo said the "universal charge," which will be reflected in electricity bills, will be paid by "every consumer over and above the P200 billion that the taxpayers will assume."

He said this would negate any savings in electricity rates, such as the 30-centavo per kilowatt-hour reduction promised in the bill.

"What was given by one hand will be taken away by the other," Arroyo said.

Proponents of the bill that would privatize the National Power Corp. had guaranteed lower electric rates for consumers once the bill is passed. Opponents have claimed otherwise, fearing a monopoly by private power generation and distribution facilities.

Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales said there had been no bicameral conference committee meeting last Thursday despite the declaration of Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. to the contrary.

The bicam committee had passed the bill even though the time had gone beyond the four-day special session called for the purpose.

No meeting

"There was no meeting. It was a *zarzuela*, the victory of *trapo* politics. Where is the new politics that was promised?" Rosales said.

She said that at a meeting at the speaker's office, House panel members admitted that no bicameral conference committee meeting was held, despite the Senate announcement.

"In the Senate, what took place was a caucus," she said.

She said that as a member of the House panel who is staunchly opposed to the Senate version of the power bill, she was deliberately left out of the caucus.

Congressmen also questioned the reinsertion of Section 28 of the bill on the insistence of Sen. John Osmeña. The section was on the "de-monopolization and shareholding dispersal" of public utilities.

Osmeña had threatened to block the bill if this section was deleted.

Malacañang, worried about this development, called three members of the House panel—Negros Oriental Rep. Jacinto Paras, Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay and Leyte Rep. Eduardo Veloso—and convinced them not to delete Section 28.

Sources said it was President Macapagal herself who talked to the three. "So they made a 180-degree turn," the source said.

Because of the circumstances that attended the passage of the power bill, opposing congressmen said they are mulling taking the case to the Supreme Court.

"This could be brought before the Supreme Court. This is so terrible," Rosales said.

'Power off'

The militant group Sanlakas vowed not to give up the fight against the measure even as it called on the public to hold another "power off" once the Senate ratifies the measure.

"The fight against the power bill continues. The railroading of the bill gives us reason to protest it more vigorously. The weekend break is our opportunity to prepare for mass actions on Monday when the Senate resumes deliberations," said Sanlakas president Wilson Fortaleza.

"We ask the people to protest the power bill by turning off their lights at 8:30 p.m. on the night the Senate ratifies the anti-consumer pro-monopoly power bill," Fortaleza said.

For his part, Pamalakaya spokesperson Nolly Serrano said the power reform bill would result in the "electrocution" of millions of rural consumers, mostly poor farmers and fisherfolk.

"The government's failure to address landlessness and injustice is further aggravated by this corporate takeover. The Macapagal government would sacrifice the entire nation at the altar of privatization just to please the corporate masters of globalization," he said.

The Freedom from Debt Coalition and Akbayan vowed to question the bill before the Supreme Court once it is passed into law.

CHEd nixes cap on tuition hikes

THE COMMISSION on Higher Education has bucked a proposal to impose a ceiling on annual tuition increases in the private schools, even as some colleges and universities rescinded their plans to raise fees this year.

CHEd chair Ester Garcia said a bill pending at the House of Representatives which sets a 15 percent ceiling on tuition hikes will boomerang and achieve the reverse of its intent.

In an earlier press briefing, Garcia said she had "reservations" about setting a ceiling on fee increases since this would only stress the legitimacy of raising fees and encourage schools to do so.

"If there is a ceiling, it's likely that even schools that were not planning to raise their fees would do so anyway, since the increase would have government approval," Garcia said.

Nearly 500 tertiary schools nationwide had bared plans to hike their tuition. However, at least 87 of the schools, mostly in the Southern Tagalog region, have since withdrawn their applications, according to the CHEd.

Garcia said other schools also failed to submit CHEd requirements for fee hikes or to follow up on their requests.

Among the Metro Manila-based schools that changed their minds about raising tuition are AMA Computer College, La Consolacion College, University of the East, De Ocampo Memorial College, ACSAT Cubao, Europhil and Alejandro College.

Schools that are hiking their tuition for incoming freshmen only are the Manuel L. Quezon University, Gregorio Araneta University Foundation, St. Benedict College, OB Montessori and International School of Theology.

"Maybe they consulted (their students and teachers) and saw the resistance," Garcia said. "Some may have been scared they could lose their students if they raised their tuition."

House Bill No. 12359 authored by Cebu Rep. Eduardo Gullas seeks to put a 15 percent cap on tuition hikes only for the first level of basic or tertiary education. *Blanche Rivera*

M. Marquez, 83

MERCEDES "Menching" Marquez, mother of Associated Press chief photographer Bullit Marquez, passed away May 31 from cancer. She was 83.

She is survived by her husband, Jose Marquez, children Josie, Lourdes, Larry, Romulo, Bullit, Rebecca, Miguel and Cristina, and 21 grandchildren.

Her remains lie at the St. Jerome Church, Alabang, Muntinlupa City. Interment will be today, Sunday, at the Loyola Memorial Park, Parañaque City, at 3 p.m.

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Venue: NIGHTBREWS GRILL & RESTO Rosario St., San Jose Antique
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Date: June 9, 2001 (Sat) 10 AM
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Tel Nos: [illegible]
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CEBU CITY
Date: June 13, 2001 (Wed) 5:30 PM
Venue: CEBU MIDTOWN HOTEL [illegible], Cebu City
Contact Person: [illegible]
Tel Nos: [illegible]
Fees: P850 Prepaid or P850 Walk in

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Date: June 16, 2001 (Sat) 2 PM
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Contact Person: [illegible]
Tel Nos: [illegible]
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BAGUIO CITY
Date: June 16, 2001 (Sat) 10 AM
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Contact Person: [illegible]
Tel Nos: [illegible]
Fees: [illegible]

LAOAG CITY
Date: June 16, 2001 (Sat) 10 AM
Venue: PALAZZO DE LAOAG HOTEL [illegible], Laoag City
Contact Person: [illegible]
Tel Nos: [illegible]
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MANILA CITY
Date: June 6, 2001 (Wed) 10 AM - 6PM
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Gordon shifts tourism thrust to North

By Cristina Arzadon and Kira Espin
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon flew to this northern city over the weekend, signaling a shift in tourism promotion efforts to the Ilocos region to take the focus away from the hostage drama in Palawan and Mindanao.

Gordon promised to help develop Ilocos Norte as an alternative tourist destination, noting the province's proximity to Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Macau and Japan.

"We will show the world that while tourism is not doing well in the South, it is doing well in the North," he said.

The tourism secretary, trying to show that all was not lost for Philippine tourism, said the perfect moment to capture Filipinos' resilience to troubled times is now when the abduction and hostage-taking by the Abu Sayyaf has dealt a big blow to the country's tourism hopes.

"When they think you are dead and you show that you are alive and well and trying as best as you can, you will be rewarded," he said here on Friday.

He stressed that the hostage-taking situation in Palawan was an isolated case.

"It doesn't mean that the other resorts in the country are under threat of bandit attacks. Let's look beyond the Abu Sayyaf and toward getting tourism back on track," he told a press conference here.

He said local governments must use their own money to beef up promotion of their areas, noting that the tourism department's budget of P500 million is even smaller than that of Puerto Princesa or of Olongapo City, which has P900 million.

He said Puerto Princesa is looking into putting out its own brochures and preparing for tourism offensives to lure back visitors who have shied away because of the abduction.

Gordon, who heads a special task force to ensure the safety of the country's resorts, said he will convince the mayor of Puerto Princesa to buy a $50,000 Cessna plane for use in patrolling the province against possible bandit attacks.

Gordon met here with Ilocos Norte Representative-elect Roque Ablan Jr. and Chinese investors led by Jack Chan, who reportedly is from the same business group that helped shore up Olongapo City, where he was mayor, after the Mt. Pinatubo eruption in 1991.

Chan's group has poured investments into the upscale Fort Ilocandia Resort Hotel here.

Gordon said facilities in Laoag are being improved to handle increased tourist traffic. On July 19, Air Macau will start twice-weekly flights to Laoag International Airport.

A Hong Kong-based travel firm, Hong Cheung Travel Philippines, operates a thrice-weekly charter using Philippine Airlines planes to service the Manila-Laoag-Hong Kong traffic.

The Hong Cheung charters carry high rollers from Hong Kong to play at the Casino Filipino at the Fort Ilocandia hotel.

In Baguio City, Sen. Loren Legarda urged Cordillera tourism officials to exert more effort into promoting scenic spots in Northern Luzon. *With a report from Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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All interested manufacturers/suppliers must submit a Letter of Intent before obtaining bid documents starting June 4 to 15, 2001 at the PBAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A Mabini Bldg., ULTRA Complex, Pasig City.

A pre-bid conference will be held on June 19, 2001, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. I, ULTRA Complex, Pasig City. The Submission and Opening of Bids will be on June 26, 2001 at the same time and place mentioned above.

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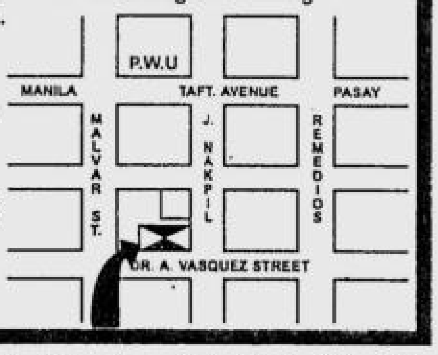

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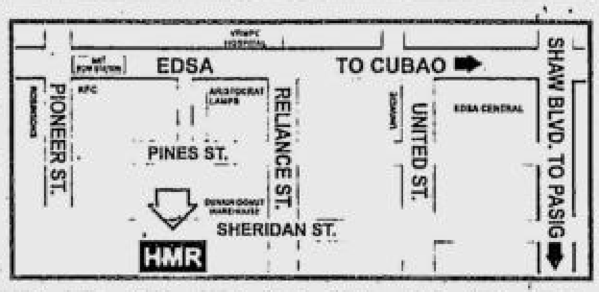

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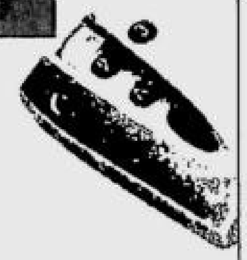

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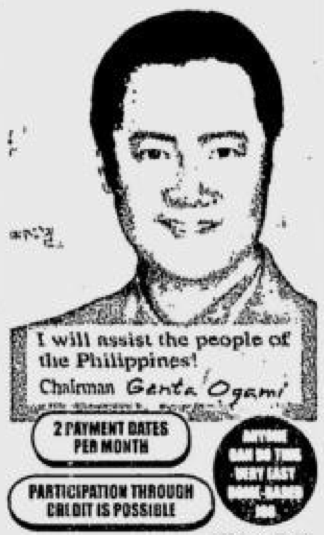

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Erap, Jinggoy must attend bail hearings–Sandigan

THE SANDIGANBAYAN'S third division, which is hearing the main plunder case against former President Joseph Estrada, has directed the deposed leader and his son, San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada, to attend the bail hearings for their co-accused, lawyer Edward Serapio, from June 18 to 28.

Serapio is presently detained at Camp Crame, Quezon City. He had originally asked for bail hearings last week, from May 28 to June 1, but his petition apparently was not acted upon.

"Although the bail hearings will be for Serapio only, considering that the other accused have not filed any petition for bail, the Court deems it best to direct (them)... to be present during the said hearings... in the light of Section 8, Rule 114 of the 2000 Rules of Criminal Procedure," the order said.

A provision under Section 8 states that "evidence presented at the bail hearing shall be considered automatically reproduced at the trial."

The ruling could be a blow to the Estradas whose lawyers had opted not to apply for bail precisely to avoid having them appear in court too often and to speed up their trial.

At the Sandiganbayan's fourth division, which is hearing the perjury case against Estrada, one justice has questioned the division ruling resetting the ousted president's arraignment on the charge from May 31 to June 27.

Associate Justice Rodolfo Palattao described as a "wanton disregard of the rules of the Sandiganbayan" division chair Associate Justice Narciso Nario's act of "promulgating in open court a resolution wherein one of the justices expressed in unequivocal terms his dissent."

Palattao's was the lone dissenting voice on the motion to reset Estrada's arraignment after two justices who were added to the fourth division to form a division of five voted with the majority. *Donna S. Cueto*

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THE ROTC: EXCISING A CANCER

(An Official Statement of the University Belt Consortium)

The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program is supposed to realize the constitutional mandate to develop a strong civilian base to supplement the professional military in the nation's defense system. Made compulsory for male students in colleges and universities, it is designed to initiate young men in the rudiments of soldiership, instilling in them discipline and correct deportment, like true officers and gentlemen.

But many are of the opinion that the ROTC has seen better days. Worse, there is the growing perception that the program has steadily deteriorated through the years. Many young men look at it as a waste of time and money; they would rather devote for study and rest the long hours of those weekends that they are made to take up the program through four semesters of college. In an era of spiraling costs, they even wonder if the training they receive is worth the money they spend for ROTC.

Considering, too, the compulsory drawn-out and over-regimented two-year program, in which the student allegedly receives little instruction and benefit but much hardship and harassment, it is no surprise that reports of irregularities and abuses are rampant and persistent. Reports cover collection of unauthorized fees, bribery, and extortion. These reports reflect the anomalous situation in which the military administers the ROTC program in the school while the school administration does not have any say on how that program is run. Since invariably the ROTC is the male student's first brush with the military, the irregularities and abuses he sees or experiences while taking part in the program become his first – and lasting – impression of the military: corrupt, abusive, and hiding behind the veneer of the nation's defense system to prey on defenseless civilians. This impression does not necessarily do justice to the military at large.

In December last year, Mark Welson Chua, a cadet officer of the ROTC program of the University of Santo Tomas, together with another officer and several cadets, filed a complaint of irregularities with the Department of National Defense (DND) against the UST Department of Military Science and Tactics. The DND gave due course to the complaint and later relieved the entire brass of UST-DMST. It was arguably the first time that a formal complaint had been lodged against the handlers of the ROTC program in the University Belt. It was also arguably the first time that a school's top DMST brass was relieved.

Even before the euphoria of the victory of justice and fair play subsided, Mark Welson Chua was kidnapped last March. His hands were bound, his face was gagged with packaging tape, and his body dumped in the Pasig River, where it was found days later. To date, two dismissed members of the UST-DMST have been arrested for the killing.

Without pre-empting the result of the trial, we believe that the sordid episode is just a symptom of the cancer gnawing at the ROTC system. We believe that it is time to strike at the heart of the matter. We believe the solution is nothing short of surgery. Specifically, we ask that the ROTC program in colleges and universities be abolished. It should not be made compulsory and a requirement for graduation in college. An additional reason for abolishing the ROTC is the fact that by requiring Military Science for graduation, in the end, it is the Commandant who determines who to graduate, a practice that encroaches on the academic freedom of universities.

There must be a way in which the constitutional end for the formation of a strong civilian complement to national defense can be realized without abetting a system that has exhibited not only wear and tear but also squalid signs of corruption and knavery. To be sure, changes in technology and defense philosophies call for a reinvention of approaches to fulfill the constitutional mandate, approaches which will be more responsive to the realities not only of national defense, but of national development goals and needs as well. The ROTC program, as presently structured, has not – and cannot – achieve the objectives for which it was established. To allow the program to continue would be ultimately self-destructive.

The ROTC program would have been left to neglect a decaying system if not for the courageous act exemplified by Mark Welson Chua. For this, we commend his bravery and sacrifice. We strongly condemn the brutal slaying to which he had been subjected. We also sympathize with his bereaved family and echo their call to the authorities to expedite the delivery of justice for his senseless killing.

The University Belt Consortium is heartened by the deep expression of serious concern coming from the higher educational institutions particularly the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU) and the Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations (COCOPEA), which have shared their own sentiments regarding the malady besetting the ROTC.

We are encouraged by this display of solicitude. Because of this, we are further inspired to carry on the fight, which one of our beloved students had initiated and paid for with his life. It is with fervency and a deep desire for change that we make an appeal to all colleges and universities in the Philippines to join us in this crusade to eradicate a rotting system and excise a cancer that gnaws on the lives of the young and the innocent.

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EXCHANGE RATE

Suicide bomb attack kills 18 in Tel Aviv

(From page A1)

around the city, went off around 11 p.m. Friday in front of the Pacha nightclub in a former aquarium building which faces a promenade lined with restaurants, bars, hotels and office towers.

"I was about to enter (the disco), suddenly I looked in the direction of the blast, I saw people thrown backward," said Dudi Nachum, 21. "I saw parts of a brain, things I have never seen before. It was terrible." Another witness said he saw "people without hands and without legs, people running and then falling down."

Police Superintendent Uri Bar Lev put the death toll at 17, and reports said over 80 were injured. Hospital sources said 11 of the injured were in a serious condition from nails and bolts packed into the bomb.

Police said they made several arrests.

In an angry reaction, hundreds of people went to the streets in an anti-Arab demonstration in the Tel Aviv suburb of Bat Yam, home to some of the victims, Israeli television reported.

The Israeli Army said it had tightened its closure of the Palestinian territories and told all Palestinians inside Israel to leave immediately.

Israeli leaders roundly condemned Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for the bombing, saying he had not taken action against perpetrators of violence.

Israeli President Moshe Katsav told Israeli television from the United States, where he is on a state visit, that Arafat "believes that by provoking an escalation, the situation is going to improve for him."

US President George W. Bush also called on Arafat to take action after the "heinous terrorist attack."

"There is no justification for senseless attacks against innocent civilians. I call upon Chairman Arafat to condemn this act and to call for an immediate ceasefire," Bush said in a statement issued from the presidential resort in Camp David, Maryland.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan was "horrified," a statement issued by his spokesperson said, adding that he "condemns this indiscriminate terrorist attack in the strongest possible terms."

"This horrible event underlines the urgency of breaking the cycle of violence," it added.

Since fighting erupted last September, 484 people have been killed on the Palestinian side—including Friday's attacker—and 104 on the Israeli side.

Israeli security has been on high alert for such attacks, but has found it impossible to keep attackers from crossing into Israel through the hundreds of kilometers of borders with West Bank.

Four car bombs over the past week failed to cause fatalities, and Israel stuck to its two-week-old "unilateral ceasefire"—a proclaimed policy of restraint which the Palestinians have dismissed as a publicity stunt.

Palestinian Parliament Speaker Ahmed Qureia said the Palestinian Authority was against the killing of civilians on both sides of the conflict.

But, he said, "there is no way to put an end to this cycle of violence as long as the Israeli government is not responding to the international community's call or invitation to put an end to the aggression which it is practicing against the Palestinian people."

Former Prime Minister Ehud Barak had offered the Palestinians a state in almost all of the West Bank and Gaza and a share of Jerusalem. But he did not meet the Palestinians' demand for a "right of return" to Israel for millions of refugees, and fighting erupted last fall even as talks continued on-and-off.

Barak lost his parliament majority and in a February election was crushed by Sharon, who considered his predecessor's offers far too generous and has removed them from the table.

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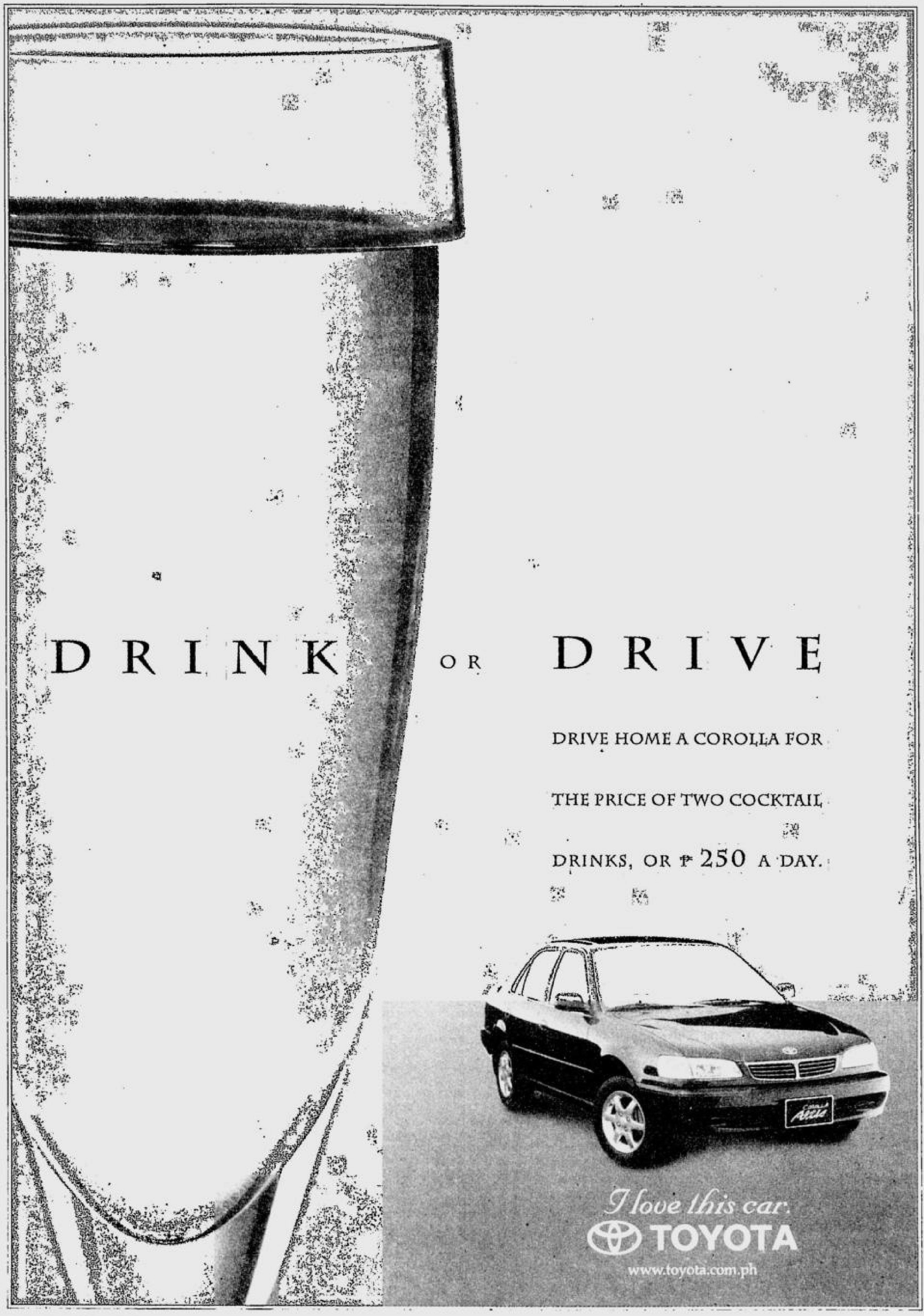
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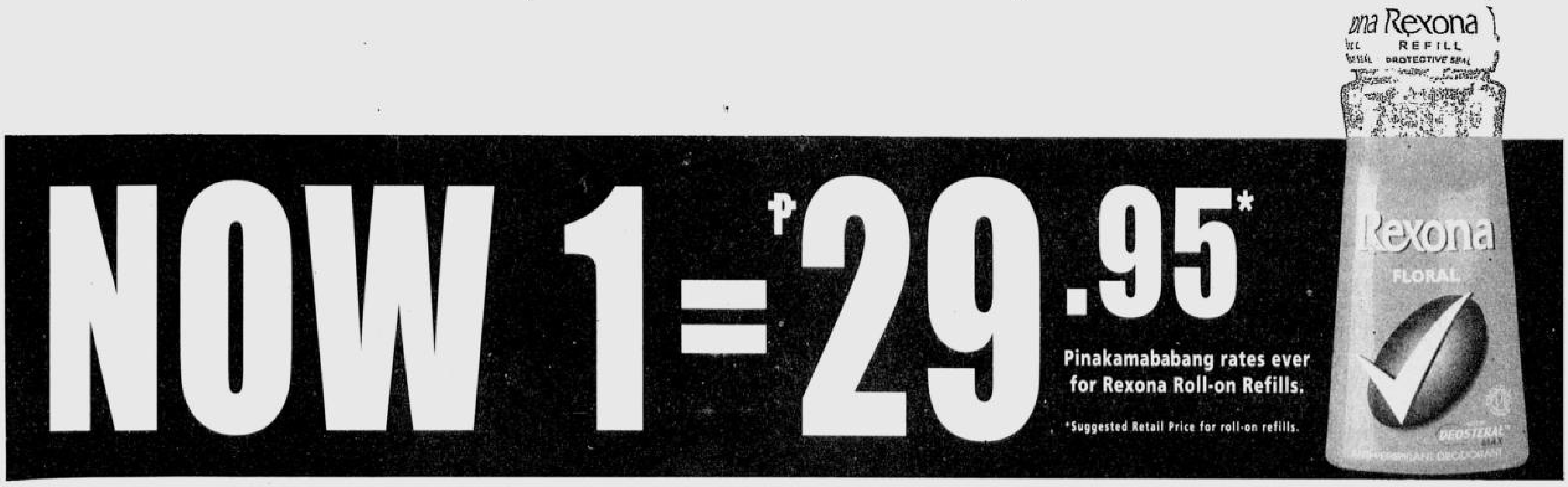

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OPINION

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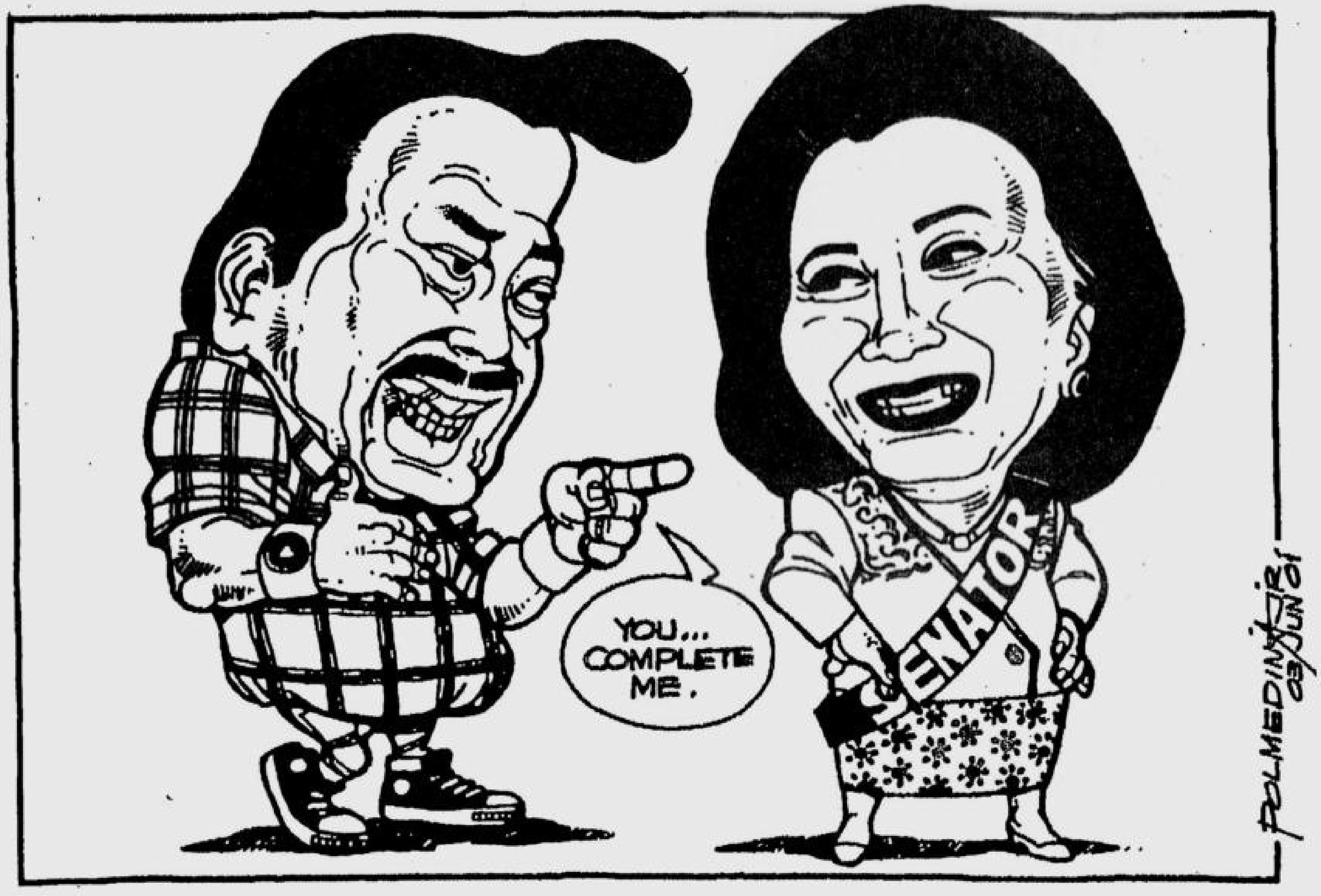

The MILF card

EDITORIAL

IN THE SEVEN days since the 20 hostages were abducted from the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan, the Abu Sayyaf has done what no one else has managed to do since the start of the *jueteng* scandal in October last year. The notorious bandits have unified a divided nation.

It is, in all likelihood, only a temporary peace, but the new hostage drama presents a crisis-weary nation an opportunity to do something together and, once the military advantage is pressed, to look forward to the resolution.

All the centers of influence in the country have condemned the kidnapping; most support the Macapagal administration's tough, no-ransom, bring-the-war-to-the-bandits strategy. This unprecedented level of support mirrors the public's own horror of the Abu Sayyaf's shameless banditry.

Almost lost in the flurry of news stories since the abduction, however, was a statement from the spokesperson of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Eid Kabalu. We should pay more attention to it.

Last Wednesday, Kabalu suggested that the Macapagal administration enlist the help of the Moro National Liberation Front, which had made peace with the government five years ago. "If that is not enough, the MILF could lend its hand," Kabalu suggested.

He explained the MILF's interest in helping resolve the new hostage crisis this way: terrorism and kidnapping are un-Islamic and are therefore condemned by real revolutionary groups.

The administration, particularly the defense establishment, may be justifiably wary of such an offer. For one thing, the Mindanao separatist group was driven out of their rebel bases only last year, when then President Joseph Estrada ordered an all-out war against the group after the peace talks collapsed. Today, pending the resumption of the peace talks, the leaders of the MILF and what remains of their movement are in hiding. Understandably, the level of distrust on both sides remains high.

For another, some of the distinctions separating the separatist rebels from the Abu Sayyaf bandits are remarkably porous. While it is true that the Abu Sayyaf terrorists have in the past counted on the support or even participation of ex-MNLF men, there is no saying now what displaced MILF rebels are prepared to do, now that they are without a permanent base.

Indeed, a part of the Abu Sayyaf's grisly history may be explained by the neutralization of the MNLF, the original separatist movement led by Nur Misuari. It might even be said that, for some MNLF rebels, the Abu Sayyaf was a continuation of the armed life they were used to by other means.

So the MILF offer of help is risky. But we think the administration should consider it seriously, and with all deliberate speed.

It makes sense for the MILF to put a distance between itself and the Abu Sayyaf. The spin coming from the Estrada administration last year, at the height of the Sipadan hostage crisis and the military offensive on the MILF, fudged the difference between the two. In fact, they were simply lumped together as Muslim troublemakers, for the transparent purpose of transferring the public's disgust of the Abu Sayyaf hostage-takers to the MILF rebels.

But if lasting peace in those affected areas in Mindanao is the ultimate objective, the MILF is right in stressing its ideological orientation, its nature as a "real revolutionary group." This is the only way they can negotiate a just and reasonable settlement if the political, economic, cultural and even historical causes of their rebellion are addressed.

It makes sense for the Macapagal administration, too, to take up the MILF on its offer and thus help it create a distinct image separate from the Abu Sayyaf. Peace is honorable only if it is negotiated between parties fighting for a just cause or claiming just grievances. The public will never accept a settlement with the Abu Sayyaf, because they are bandits plain and simple. But a peace treaty with the MILF will be easier to sell to the public, especially the Christian population in Mindanao, if the group's guilt by association is removed.

It also makes sense for another reason: The offer from the MILF, which may include the use of both the rebels' moral suasion and their tactical assets, might actually save the hostages, and end the crisis.

Blaming God

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

A READER obviously schooled in leftist dialectics faults me for denying in this column the other Sunday that the voice of the people is the voice of God. He says I have revealed my contempt for the poor by ridiculing their electoral choices when these were actually dictated by the elite.

In the first place, I will have to correct his assumption that I am a member of the elite, not that it is a disgrace as he seems to see it. I have been working all my adult life and continue to do so even if I'm officially retired. *Katulad ako ng marami sa atin na nagbabanat ng buto upang mabuhay.* I'm not from the leisure class.

In the second place, I did not say it was the poor who are responsible for the election of many undeserving candidates. Other voters not belonging to the masses also exercised their suffrages mindlessly. Television and movie viewers from the middle and upper classes who also idolize their tinsel heroes are equally accountable. Even some supposed members of the so-called intelligentsia voted foolishly.

If that reader got the wrong impression, it could be because he has a guilty conscience. He is probably an ineffective leader of the gullible voters whom unprincipled candidates find so easy to exploit because of their poverty. *Erap para sa mahirap* was the unifying battle cry that deluded millions of the impoverished masses into electing a revealed misfit. It was also their penury that turned them into a rampaging mob at the gates of Malacañang last month.

Candidates have learned that the poor are so easy to manipulate. Among these are those who have been brainwashed by the religious groups into obedience without question. It is they who, on command of their high priests, vote for choices already made for them for ulterior motives. They are like herded cattle without volition or principle, content to have others think for them as if they themselves had no minds of their own. These docile followers are, realistically, mostly from the masses.

It's a mistake to think that it is their poverty that makes many people vote for worthless candidates. In many cases, it's simply their foolishness. Housemaids and even their prosperous wrinkled mistresses voted for Erap because he looked handsome to them. They did not see him as a champion of the poor but as a dashing Asiong Salonga in their make-believe world. It didn't matter that he was a dullard and womanizer as long as he could croon to them, and never mind his beerbelly either.

In any event, I fail to see why the poor should be condoned for everything they do on the blanket excuse that they are poor. That's stretching things too far. I'm for social justice like most of us, but within the limits of the law. Poverty cannot be pleaded in extenuation of a crime but only for mitigation of its penalty. For all the compassion they deserve, the poor cannot be forgiven for voting foolishly simply because they happen to be poor.

Are the poor justified in selling their vote because they have no money to see a movie? Does their poverty entitle them to entrust our fate and future to shallow entertainers and athletes and disreputable cronies? Because they are poor, are they obliged to follow their gurus without question or protest in electing the nation's leaders? Must the poor be allowed to besmirch the purity of suffrage for the stupid and simple reason that they are poor? To vary Madame Roland's lament, "O poverty, how many crimes are committed in your name!"

The testy reader says that it is the elite that should be blamed for the way the poor have voted. He asks, "Are the ignorant masses at fault if an Estrada or a Noli de Castro comes to power?" Why not? In arguing that the elite gives the poor little choice, he speaks absolute nonsense. Of course the poor have a choice, in fact many choices. I do not believe the poor are doomed to eternal penury because they have, as their cynical defender puts it, "little choice."

In the last elections, the poor, like the rest of the electorate, had a choice between sanity and lunacy, liberty and despotism, integrity and venality, transparency and duplicity, and, generally speaking, good and evil. Indeed, they were free to make their choices. For the most part, the electorate chose fairly well, although there were sorry exceptions that made the rule. The exceptions, I dare say, were voted by the ignorant and the foolish from all levels of our society but mostly from the poor.

These exceptions include some candidates for the Senate, among them a reputed ignoramus, alleged coup plotters facing arrest, and a housewife elected by a sympathy vote. In Zamboanga del Norte, a foolish first district has reelected the detained Romeo Jalosjos, who was convicted in 1998 for statutory rape and has been unable to serve his current term in Congress. The policy against political dynasties has again been flouted, with wives and children and brothers and sisters replacing each other in the political game of musical chairs.

Are these aberrations the will of God?

Did the poor elect Noli de Castro because they had little choice? Choice of what? What did this candidate have to offer that he received more than 15 million votes and topped the Senate race over unquestionably more competent candidates? Poor Wigberto Tañada, the stalwart nationalist, was left in the wings although, pound for cerebral pound, he was a much worthier choice. We are probably being punished for our stupidity.

Out of reverence for the Almighty, I cannot agree that the voice of the people as recently heard in the land is the voice of God. Whether it was dictated by the elite, or the religious groups, or the media, or the communists, or came directly and voluntarily from the authentic poor, it certainly did not express Heaven's will. We have proved once again that *Vox populi, vox Dei* is an arrant myth. I hope it will be true later, after we shall have educated our voters.

Don't forget the coffee

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

I JUST came from Europe after a pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, Assisi and Rome. In one of our bus stops somewhere in Spain, I went to a coffee machine to get a cup of cappuccino coffee. With my little knowledge of Spanish, I tried to understand the instructions, counted the coins, took some time to see which button to press, and finally pressed one. Success! But the grinding and dripping sound of the machine was soon overwhelmed by a frantic cry from the storekeeper who was running to me shouting, "*El baso! El baso!*" I had not put a cup to receive the dripping coffee!

I had the machine all figured out, but when the coffee finally came out, I was not ready. I was not there to receive it. Too engrossed on the coffee machine, I forgot the coffee.

* * *

Pentecost reminds us that life is not just about machines, figures and making things work. Pentecost reminds us that life is about people and lives and living life itself with spirit, and with the highest spirit, the Holy Spirit. There is a power greater than you and I. It is there. It is available. However, we, busy and proud, often belittle or altogether ignore it, all in the name of reason, pragmatism or practicality.

For those who look down and snub anything spiritual, don't be narrow-minded. Be open to "pentecost moments" in your life. Yield, surrender, let go and entrust your life to the Holy Spirit, and experience power, strength and new directions in your life.

* * *

Allow me to share two "pentecost moments" we experienced during this last pilgrimage. The first one was with our guide at Fatima. He was a good guide, but I pitied him because he was elderly and he was limping in pain. I don't know what came over me, but in the last chapel we visited, I called Leo up front and asked my fellow pilgrims to pray over him. That we did, leaving it at that. And we left Leo behind in Fatima.

Five days later, somewhere in France, we received a message from Leo saying that the very night we left, he received a phone call from a long-time friend telling him that there was suddenly money available for that long planned hip surgery of his that will finally relieve him of his pain. He thanked us for our prayers. He said, "Usually, pilgrims leave Fatima and bring graces with them. But you and your Filipino group brought graces to Fatima as well."

Our group, of course, was elated. But more than that, we were all grateful to the Spirit who made it all happen.

* * *

A second "pentecost moment" happened when we were negotiating a long, dark tunnel somewhere in Italy. Suddenly, the bus slowed down and I saw lights blinking all over the instrumentation panel and noticed the worried look of our driver and guide. With cars traveling at over 100 kph, anything could happen if our bus stopped inside the tunnel. Again, I don't know what came over me (any guess?) but, I started leading a prayer to the Holy Spirit and to the guardian angels. The whole group was praying out loud. After some moments that seemed like an eternity, the bus lurched forward and regained its normal power, to the amazement of our driver and guide who exclaimed "I don't know what it is, but it seems to me that your prayers are working!" I just pointed one finger upward with a smile, and the whole bus was filled with gratitude and love.

* * *

"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn.20, 19-23) If we live in the Spirit, we have peace. We have a mission to spread this peace. We are not to become spiritual gluttons, rejoicing at our being blessed or being chosen while the world around us suffers.

This is a very strong reminder to those who won in the last elections. You have a mission. You have a responsibility. You have a task for our nation. *Hindi para sa iyo o para sa pamilya mo 'yan!*

* * *

"Please pray over me, Father" is a very common request these days. The laying of hands over people is a biblical practice to invoke the coming of the Holy Spirit on a person. Anyone of us can pray over someone who requests it. Have you ever been prayed over by someone? Or, have you ever prayed over someone? Try it. The Holy Spirit is always available, anytime.

* * *

It is a very good habit to pray over something. Is there anything bothering you right now? Pray over it. Ask the Holy Spirit to come. The Holy Spirit surely comes, but, like the coffee, make sure your cup is ready to receive!

* * *

Here's a prayer we all can and should pray as we go about our individual battles and our struggles as a nation: "Come, Holy Spirit, we need You. Come, Holy Spirit, we pray. Come with Your strength and Your power. Come in Your own special way. Come like a spring in the desert. Come to us weary of souls. Come with Your sweet healing power. Touch us and make us whole."

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, as I go on with life, help me never forget the presence and the power of your Holy Spirit. Come, O Holy Spirit, I need You. Amen.

Power bill: good news and bad news

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

THE POWER Reform Bill will be the defining act of the Macapagal administration. The President herself endorsed the bill in TV commercials, promising the nation it will result in reduced power rates for consumers.

To stress her point, the President vowed to veto the bill if it will not lower power rates. And so, as far as the public is concerned, there is only one criterion in judging the bill: whether or not it will bring down power rates in the next three years before the 2004 presidential elections.

The bill itself is complex and fraught with imponderables. We can best understand the bill by breaking it up into four parts: the good news, the bad news, the punishment and the big question.

The good news is that the bill finally privatizes the debt-laden and money-losing National Power Corp. With no private owners watching it, the Napocor has through the years entered into contracts grossly disadvantageous to the government. The Napocor has been terribly inefficient. The horror stories about the Napocor's mismanagement, if revealed to the public, will drive angry consumers to cry for blood.

A monopoly like the Napocor, with a guaranteed 12-percent return on rate base, should never lose money. The Napocor, however, has consistently racked up losses which now account for over 50 percent of the government's budget deficit. With the Napocor's privatization, this financial hemorrhage will finally end, and the Macapagal administration can claim a significant victory in containing the budget deficit.

The bad news is that the bill is the reverse of leveling the playing field. The bill allows cross-ownership between a generator and a distributor, preventing arms-length sale of power from a generator to a distributor. The 50-percent cap on power purchases between related companies merely means that 50 percent of the power sold to consumers is tainted with transfer pricing.

The bill does not require a distributor to bid out its purchases of equipment, allowing it to buy from sister companies at inflated prices. This will bloat the asset base of the distributor, inflating its 12-percent return on rate base at the expense of consumers. The bill also discriminates against a non-listed distributor because no one can own more than 25 percent of such non-listed company. There is no such prohibition against a listed distributor which can be owned 90 percent by a single individual.

With the glaring anti-competition provisions in the bill, we cannot expect power rates to go down due to market forces alone because there will be limited competition. The Macapagal administration will have to task the incoming Congress to amend the bill to make the power industry more competitive. Otherwise, the avowed goal of more reasonable power rates for all will become illusory.

The bill provides a painful punishment to consumers who will take over from the government the burden of the Napocor's financial hemorrhage. The Napocor's stranded asset cost is estimated at P350 billion, after the sale of its assets to pay off creditors. Consumers will absorb P150 billion spread over 15 to 25 years, while the government will assume P200 billion.

The government's assumption of P200 billion will allow an immediate power rate reduction of 30 centavos per kilowatt-hour. This is really no relief because consumers as taxpayers will ultimately pay what the government absorbs. What the right hand gives, the left hand takes away.

There are also the stranded contract costs arising from the Napocor's contracts with 42 IPP companies. The contract payments over 25 years to the IPPs total P975 billion, while the actual market price of all the power to be generated over 25 years is only P525 billion. This leaves a staggering P450 billion in stranded costs to be absorbed by consumers.

The stranded costs constitute the punishment to consumers for allowing the Napocor to remain inefficient, profligate and corrupt all these years. These stranded costs have accumulated over the years since the Marcos administration. It is only the Macapagal administration that has not contributed to these stranded costs.

The Macapagal administration has, against great odds, put a stop to any further increase in these stranded costs. This act requires a strong political will because consumers are finally made to pay a punishing burden that has long been postponed and allowed to grow bigger. The stranded costs will have to be paid one way or another, either directly by consumers, or indirectly by taxpayers, or by the government with public funds raised through other sources.

The choice of who will pay, however, will have a serious impact on investors who are heavy power users. With the bulk of the stranded costs passed on to consumers, investors will not locate their factories in the Philippines. They will manufacture in other Asean countries where the power rates are at least 60 percent lower, and simply ship their products to the Philippines. We will continue to lose jobs to our Asean neighbors.

The bill provides an immediate lifeline subsidy to the poor who consume less than 50 kilowatts a month. After three years, end-users who consume at least one megawatt per month can buy from any power generator, presumably at a lower, more market-priced rates. Those consuming more than 50 kilowatts but less than one megawatt will then shoulder the burden of stranded costs and the lifeline subsidy. That means you and me.

The big question is, when presidential elections are held on May 14, 2004, will power rates be higher, lower or the same as they are today? If the rates go up, the President will pay dearly for this in the polls. Energy Secretary Lito Camacho, who convinced the President that power rates will go down, must ensure that his friends in the power industry do not misbehave.

Astonishingly, the President has staked her political future on a very volatile and emotional issue: the cost of power to consumers.

Party pushes takeover of Malaysian papers

NEWS ANALYSIS

Eileen Ng

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia's largest Chinese party aims to secure the community's crucial votes in the next elections by pushing through a controversial takeover of two independent newspapers, analysts said Thursday.

One said the move could backfire on the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA). Others believe it is too early to say despite the anger stoked by the deal.

The MCA's decision to take over Nanyang Press Holdings has sparked bitter opposition from various Chinese pressure groups, businessmen and even traditional government supporters. But MCA leaders, after a heated three-hour meeting late Wednesday, voted to go ahead.

The party's investment arm Huaren Holdings was due late Thursday to finalize the acquisition of a 72-percent stake in Nanyang Press, which publishes Nanyang Siang Pau and China Press. The two papers have a combined circulation of 400,000.

The MCA—the second biggest party in the ruling coalition—already owns the country's largest English daily, The Star.

Analysts viewed the deal as a bid to shore up Chinese support for the ruling National Front coalition before the next elections, which must be called by 2004.

Chinese, the second largest community after Malays, make up about a quarter of the 22 million population. MCA president Ling Liong Sik has promised not to interfere in editorial matters.

In the November 1999 polls, the National Front relied on Chinese and Indian support to retain its two-thirds majority after many Malays turned to the opposition.

Chinese votes have become more crucial than ever, said P. Ramasamy, political science lecturer at the National University of Malaysia.

> The MCA's decision to take over Nanyang Press Holdings has sparked bitter opposition from various Chinese pressure groups, businessmen and even traditional government supporters

This was evident from Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's plans to hire a Chinese special assistant to get closer to the community, Ramasamy said.

He said recent issues have stoked rumblings within the community, such as the failure of top Chinese students to enter state universities because 55 percent of places are reserved for Malays under a quota system.

Last August the premier also angered many Chinese with a strong attack on the Chinese pressure group Suqiu, which had urged that affirmative action programs be extended to all those in need and not just Malays. Mahathir said its approach was akin to that of communist terrorists.

"The whole idea of the (newspaper) takeover is basically to determine the agenda for the Chinese society and to make sure they vote as a block for the National Front in the next general elections," Ramasamy told AFP. "It is a deliberate and calculated attempt to tame the Chinese community to accept the coalition's hegemonic politics."

But Ramasamy said the move could backfire on the MCA. "There may be a terrible political backlash against the party, a backlash that could cost the National Front its crucial votes to win the next election," he said.

Teoh Kian Hoon, a researcher with the Centre for Malaysian Chinese studies, said the MCA was likely subtly to turn the two dailies into partisan publications. "Chinese dailies play a key role in socializing and influencing the community on political issues. Once you control a newspaper, you set the agenda and influence the way the community thinks," he said.

"Whether the antagonism against the MCA will translate into a loss of support is still unclear at the moment. A lot of things can still happen in the next two to three years," he added.

Abdul Razak Baginda, executive director of the Malaysian Strategic Research Centre, agreed it was too early to gauge the consequences but said Nanyang's circulation in coming months would provide a clue.

He said he was not convinced that the MCA would change Nanyang's independent line, if only because of the effect on sales. *AFP*

The nation and the Abu Sayyaf

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE SUBTEXT of the ongoing military operation against the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan is that this is as much a reassertion of national sovereignty over Mindanao as it is a bid to rescue civilian hostages taken by a bandit group. In many ways, the government is still conducting a pacification mission in uncharted territory. It has chosen not to tap the local government units. It has assigned the job wholly to the Armed Forces, with the local police only serving as guides.

I am sure there are reasons for this, and I am not criticizing the government's approach here so much as I am describing a political reality. Anyone who has been to Sulu, Basilan and other areas of Muslim Mindanao would know at once that state authority exists only in a very tenuous way in these parts.

A variety of notorious armed groups, known as "lost commands," regularly roam these provinces in search of prey. They maintain checkpoints and collect toll fees from commuters on highways. Kidnap for ransom is their main economic activity, an echo of the Tausug and Samal slave raids of two centuries ago.

The state has been unable to neutralize them. They weave in and out of villages, deriving protection from a dense network of kinship ties. Often, they hire themselves out as contractual private armies to some businessman or politician. But they are free men; each one owns the most important possession that an adult can have in this part of the country: a gun.

In many ways, this is still frontier country. Intrepid evangelical groups funded from abroad as well as all kinds of NGOs operate side by side the older Catholic missions. In a land thirsty for education, literacy remains the biggest challenge. And literacy campaigns serve as a convenient vehicle for propagating the Bible or spreading the gospel of family planning.

Here, town mayors prefer to hold office and take up residence in the major cities, maintaining only nominal outposts in their municipalities to attend to the needs of their constituencies. More than other officials of government, it is the public school teachers who promote the ideology of Filipino nationhood at constant risk to their lives.

The project of nationhood is far from finished. We hold national elections in these parts, but this mode of participation in national life may be largely fictional. It is not by chance that Muslim Mindanao is also the site of the most brazen attempts at vote padding or vote shaving. National politics is so remote from the concerns of the average Muslim Filipino that it would be surprising if an ordinary voter cared whether the certificates of electoral returns faithfully mirrored the actual voting.

This is not to say that a social order does not exist in this part of the country. It does, but it is doubtful whether it follows Philippine constitutional lines. It would be more accurate to say we are dealing with the traces of small nations here, of autonomous communities still ruled by custom and by powerful clans. If the Philippine state were to suddenly pull out of this place, the resulting situation might not be so different from the aftermath of the Afghan state's collapse, which gave rise to the rule of the dreaded Taliban.

The terror of the Abu Sayyaf has been an eye-opener for us. Equipped with the latest weaponry, vehicles and communication devices, this group has become a magnet for young alienated Muslims who could find no hope or opportunity for advancement within the stream of Philippine society or in the project of Islamic autonomy. Today they may seem as nothing more than kidnap-for-ransom entrepreneurs. But tomorrow they may decide to become a Moro revolutionary army. Their founder, the late Abdurajak Janjalani, was both a warrior and a religious teacher. They are operating within a way of life undergoing severe erosion; they have an ideological past they can always resurrect.

What has become apparent in all this is the vulnerability of the Philippine state. A small bandit group mocks its claim to sovereign authority over the whole archipelago. A year ago, Malaysia and Libya shelled out ransom money to free the Sipadan hostages. A Libyan diplomat was flown in to mediate the safe release of the foreign victims. Now, with three American nationals in the custody of the Abu Sayyaf bandits, the US government is offering whatever assistance the Philippines may need. The message is clear: this is your country but let us know if you need help to set it straight.

Before the raid on Sipadan, the Abu Sayyaf was content to abduct people who strayed into its territory. Today, with faster boats, high-powered weapons and sophisticated communications, it is bolder, more mobile and more menacing. Its members can go anywhere their raiding boats will take them, and that is virtually all the high-end diving and holiday destinations in the southern part of the country up to North Borneo. This should hardly surprise us if we knew our history. In the 1800s, when the raiding "*prahus*" were not yet powered by Volvo engines, the Sulu raiders ventured as far north as the Visayas to capture slaves.

Mindanao remained a thorn on the side of Spanish colonialism till its dying years. The Americans who took over treated the island as a separate Moro province, and dealt with it through its traditional rulers. The Philippine Republic chose to assert its sovereignty over this territory by bringing in waves of Christian settlers. Filipinas colonized Mindanao, but failed to make its people a meaningful part of the Filipino nation. We are still paying for the cost of that failure.

* * *

Comments are welcome at rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Post-election kindergarten lesson

COMMENTARY

John L. Silva

GOOD morning, children. Playing elections is over, so let's do a major cleanup in your playground.

Girls and boys, you've made such a mess. Gosh, look at all those posters you've pasted. You know, this is a good time to learn a new word: "vandalism."

DongDong, you were the first eager-beaver to litter even before the campaign started with those silly tree posters. Those posters fooled us into thinking they were about saving trees. Can you spell "vandalism"?

Why, what's all those little tears? Oh, you lost? Class, let's all give DongDong a big hug and tell him that slick advertising sometimes boomerangs.

Pay attention, Manny dear, and stop banging that gavel on Gringo Boy's head. You won, didn't you? Manny, let's talk a bit about real estate. You stuck your posters all over the country, turning it into one big garbage can. If you made the country dirty with your posters, bringing the whole country's value down, what will happen to your properties? Oh, you're so smart. Yes, your real estate will be like, even below the toilet, as in sewage, right?

Yes, Gringo Boy, you won, too. You were so naughty pasting your posters before the campaign started. And then your classmates told me you got mad against the President one day and you decided to foment a coup. What, *hijo*, you don't know what "foment" means? Miriam, why are you laughing back there?

Now, Gringo Boy, you have to make up your mind. If you want to foment trouble, don't spend all that money posting stickers all over the place. You either play elections or overthrow a government. You can't do both at the same time.

Now, Miriam, you haven't stopped laughing. I see. You're actually crying and laughing. Let me call the school nurse.

You lost too, my little python? Didn't I tell you your poster made you look like a Kamayan waitress? I told you to wear that cute all-leather dominatrix outfit with the stiletto heels and pose with an Uzi. But no, you wanted to look like a waitress with that boring hairdo.

And why are you pointing at me like that, Miriam? Why are you frothing at the mouth? Nurse, oh Nurse, can you come to Room 101 quick? And bring the anti-rabies serum!

Now, Ralph, come here. I heard that you gave your allowance to some bad boys outside to tear up the posters of Baby Johnny. Baby Johnny is upset and wants to punch you and bring in his boys to beat up your boys. Now, if you didn't stick those posters in the first place, you wouldn't be fighting like this, would you? Baby Johnny wanted to make sure the children in your neighborhood would vote for him.

Baby Johnny, why are you crying? You lost, too?

Children, listen closely to your first campaign tip. During play elections, there'll be adults called media handlers who promise to make you win if you give them all of your allowance. They'll tell you to print millions of posters and hammer them on every tree in the country. Don't believe them. Baby Johnny blew his allowance on all those posters and he still lost!

Yes, Ping? Looks like you won, huh? You had a wonderful TV ad about being a detergent and cleaning up things if you win. Let's give his ad agency a big round of applause. Now, whatever you do, Ping, just stick to the word "cleanup." Never use "rubout" because that has a whole different meaning.

Edgardo, please stand up. You won because all the children voters of this land think you're moderate. Yes, Edgardo, moderate is like being sensible. We like sensible people. Now, can you tell your puppy love, Gloria, to be sensible and leave the Cultural Center playhouse now? She's been overstaying in that playhouse and not sharing it with the other children. Sharing is a good thing.

Come forward, Noli, leave that microphone, and take a deep bow in front of the class. Isn't he a charmer, class? Doesn't he prove that we are a country of couch potatoes? Now, Noli, can one of your 16 million voters get off his butt and go to St. Scholastica's and peel your campaign posters off the walls? They're right beside a big post-no-bill sign.

Kiko, stop waving your hand. I can see you. Yes, I know you won, too. You had your posters all over the place: on garbage cans, on bridges, on underpasses, covering the yellow diagonal signs which could cause accidents. Can you spell "accident"? You can't? How about "lawsuit"?

We've seen you on TV campaigning. But when you brought out Sharon, that's when everyone started jumping up and down, looking like they really liked you. Don't you think, children, little Kiko here should have just brought Sharon around with him instead of sticking all those posters around the place?

Now, children, you've seen those huge billboards with megastars holding drippy hamburgers and telling you it's delicious and you got to buy one. That's called product endorsement. You may not really want a hamburger (you might even a be a vegetarian), but you buy one anyway because you want your megastar to be happy and rich. Well, we can't tell just yet if the children voters of this land really like Kiko or if Kiko's winning is an example of product endorsement.

Which brings us to Ralph. Isn't it surprising that Ralph dirtied up the country with his cute *mestizo* face, got product endorsement, and even has an old respectable name, and yet he is still fighting to win?

What was that, Baby Johnny? He didn't have a platform?

No, Ralph, a platform is not a wooden stage. A platform is about vision and accomplishments. What, you don't know your accomplishments?

Winnie, oh my cute *kalabasa*, you look so forlorn. Come here, and let me rap your little knuckles. I was counting on you not to paste those nasty posters because I expected more from you. You know that was illegal. Class, shall we disqualify her and boycott her TV show if she does it the next time?

Flavie, you cuddly boy. Okay, class, why do you think he got so many votes? No, Ping, Flavie doesn't have an Expedition. Yes, Miriam, he is the poorest among the senators. Yes, Edgardo, he is as sensible as you. But next time, Flavie, will you act sensibly, too, and instead of spending on posters, just talk to the *masa*, which you're good at anyway?

Who's that sniffing in the back? Oh, Jamby, we heard you lost big-time. All that expensive K.D. Laing look-alike posters for nothing. You know, Jamby, I'll let you in on a secret. They (and you know who I mean) didn't vote for you because you dirtied up their neighborhood with your posters and you didn't do the same in Forbes Park. So they said, let's teach this rich girl a lesson.

Children, next week we will talk about class war.

We're almost out of time, so can someone tell me briefly why little Orly lost? That's right, his hairdo on his poster looked like Erap's, which got everyone confused. Orly, will you change your hairdresser the next time?

And poor, Bobby. The sexy high school starlets that tried to get you to dance on stage during the campaign told me you have two left feet. No, don't go for ballroom dancing classes. How about trying to get your message across without the posters?

There goes the bell. Time for your next class on aesthetics and civics. You're all going to learn the difference between a clean wall and a dirty wall. You're going to learn how to love our country and not dirty it. And you'll also learn electoral laws and enforcement.

What was that, Ping? You have a suggestion on enforcement? Oh, no, that's nasty. But it just might work.

Class dismissed.

John L. Silva is the curator of the National Museum.

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Please send feedback to **opinion@inquirer.com.ph**

Who *really* won the elections?

IF YOU ask the usual suspects, you would get the usual answers. The administration would say the People Power Coalition won because it got a solid plurality of the seats in the House and a majority of the Senate seats at stake. The Puwersa ng Masa, on the other hand, would say the sheer presence of opposition senators-elect is proof positive that the former administration has received the vindication it craved. These arguments are suspect, not only because of the creative arithmetic they employ but also because of the dubious assumption they share: that the May 14 elections were a referendum on the events that led to the ouster of Joseph Estrada. But if the polls were not, then the obvious question becomes more material: Who's got the bragging rights?

> Those who called the May 14 polls a one-issue election got it wrong. It wasn't simply a case of being for or against Erap.

'Not exactly the triumph of the rural poor'

BY OMI ROYANDOYAN
Executive Director, Philippine Peasant Institute

THE RURAL poor, particularly the ordinary farmers, will tell you that elections in the Philippines are not really relevant to them. The question of who really won the elections—whether it is the pro-Erap or the anti-Erap faction–is, thus, irrelevant to them. Why? The pro and anti differentiation is artificial. Both the administration and opposition camps do not really represent the collective sentiments of the rural poor. Both have no clear agenda on how to address massive rural poverty. The recent elections only show that what has changed is not the agenda but simply the loyalties of the elected officials.

Elections are not as "sacred" as the so-called educated or literate class would like us to believe. This is so for the simple reason that elections have never really mattered as a major factor in changing their state of destitution. The sacredness and relevance of elections are abstract concepts that have not translated into something concrete that the rural poor can hold on to. The only concrete factor that elections offer them is the opportunity to "increase" their income even if it's only for a day. To them, this political exercise is only relevant to their lives in this sense—a short-lived, periodic source of additional income.

It is no longer relevant to them after election day. They are not overly concerned over whether the outcome of the elections will result in immediate or sustainable gains. Why are they generally derisive of the elections? The answer, quite simply, is rooted in the failure of elected officials to produce tangible results. From their experience, those who have been elected to govern them often turn out to be of the same ilk as those who have historically neglected agriculture and the small farmers. As a result, the farmers and the rural poor have long been suffering political and economic marginalization and disempowerment.

No meaningful elections

Agriculture has remained backward. The National Economic Development Authority came up with an assessment of the last five to six years, which indicated that Philippine agriculture and fisheries do not appear to be modernizing, rural development has not been broad-based, and the threat to sustainable development has not abated. Rural poverty is also increasing. If Neda is correct in its assessment, the country may never really attain "meaningful" elections. In areas where rural poverty is high, vote buying is a common occurrence. As far as the rural poor are concerned, elections are but occasions to temporarily alleviate poverty.

The case of the small coconut farmers is illustrative. During the campaign, they clamored for government action to address the rapid drop in copra prices, which had resulted in widespread bankruptcy among their ranks. To the dismay of the two million small coconut farmers, only one candidate attempted to address their dire predicament. The bankruptcy has now reached such massive proportions that, according to Kilos-saka, a broad alliance of peasant and non-government organizations, "many small coconut farmers will not be able to send their children to school. The rising prices of food and other necessities, coupled with the continuous weakening of the peso, is enough to force the farmers to cut down the trees so they can sell these as timber and augment their meager income."

Voting with one's conscience

If this is the plight of coconut farmers, how can we expect ordinary farmers (who are also awfully preoccupied in ensuring daily economic survival) to participate meaningfully during elections? We can only expect indifference and apathy from their ranks! When the poor farmer is forced to weigh "voting with one's conscience" (as most of the die-hard moralists and the noisy middle class pontificate) against "money with which to buy food for their children," it is easy to see why the farmer chooses the latter.

What appears as a victory for the administration is not exactly the triumph of the rural poor. Except for one or two, none in the administration's line-up can be expected to advocate thorough reforms and changing power relations in the countryside. The track records of these senators-elect even indicate that some of them have been instrumental in the further marginalization and disenfranchisement of farmers. Neither can we expect miracles from the so-called opposition, whose main preoccupation is to protect and defend a corrupt ex-president. Worse, the Puwersa ng Masa senators-elect seem ill-suited to be lawmakers. Two are pronouncedly more interested in police matters, one in charity work, and a fourth is even suspected of involvement in the coconut levy scam.

On the other hand, the opposition's triumph in Mindanao does not necessarily indicate unequivocal support for Erap or the opposition. Reports we have gathered from the field indicate two major factors that affected the outcome. First, many rural poor voters expressed their genuine dislike of President Macapagal-Arroyo because of her identification or association with the elite, especially because this image stood out sharply against Erap's successful projection of a pro-poor veneer. Second, the opposition relied heavily on the old traditional machinery and poured in a lot of money, which attracted most of the rural poor.

It appears that those who won in the elections are exactly the type of lawmakers who will continue to render elections irrelevant to our farmers and the rural poor. So, who really won the elections? The answer is obvious.

PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO / ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

'Gloria has won this battle'

BY GILBERT CADIZ
Editor in Chief, Sorsogon NOW

ONE thing is sure: The question itself is proof that this was no cut-and-dried election. The steady 8-4-1 ranking in the latest Comelec tally only ensures that while Gloria may now rest easy on the question of her government's legitimacy in the eyes of the people, still she would have to govern with one ear constantly pressed to the ground.

If Gloria has any consolation, it's perhaps the fact that Joseph Estrada has precious little to crow about, either. The election proved once and for all that in terms of popularity, Estrada is down to his core band of supporters to give him the illusion of political significance and vote for his anointed candidates. The votes for Loi Estrada are pretty much a vote for her husband; that much is incontestable. But it is doubtful whether the sympathy vote extended to the likes of Angara, Lacson, and Honasan. More probably, Angara made it because he was a voice for moderation in a shrill political environment, and because his previous Senate record can stand independent scrutiny as well. On the other hand, people voted for Lacson because, as one cab driver put it, *"siya lang ang nakapagpatino sa pulis"*—not a mean achievement, considering the general state of the Philippine National Police. As for Honasan, pundits and political observers have their entire lifetimes to fathom the great mystery of his victory.

Erap's obsolescence

In other words, the overarching myth about Estrada's enduring popularity should be laid to rest with this election. Time and again, Estrada has made good use of his crude but effective flair for drama to paint his political travails in the colors of class martyrdom. The *masa* usually bought the story, but in this election, many obviously thought the *pelikula* has gone stale. If Estrada's endorsement is worth only one victorious senator at this point—and his much put-upon wife at that, long an object of sympathy herself—what does that say but that Estrada's grip on the popular imagination is over? It's political obsolescence for him from hereon.

Gloria has her work cut out for her in the next three years. A large part of the nation remains emotionally distant from her administration; she has to reach out to this disaffected, dispirited mass. The disastrous Estrada years have only deepened the people's cynicism toward government, and if the recent elections can be read at all, it's that the electorate supports this government—up to a point. For now, with eight newly minted senators on her side, Gloria has won this battle. It remains to be seen whether she'll win the war.

The writer is also managing editor of Entrepreneur Philippines.

'Not Gloria; not Erap either'

FR. ELISEO MERCADO, OMI
President, Notre Dame College of Cotabato

COTABATO CITY–With the exception of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, the Mindanao votes went to the Puwersa ng Masa senatorial slate. (Though independent, Noli de Castro and Santanina Rasul are included in this slate.) The simplistic reading of this turn of events is to claim that Erap won over Gloria. Equally preposterous is the reading that the PnM's victory in Mindanao is the vindication of the all-out war waged last year by the Joseph Estrada-Orlando Mercado-Angelo Reyes clique.

Many analysts would like to turn the elections into a contest between Gloria and Erap. I believe that the Supreme Court's unanimous decisions on the matter have put an end to the controversy. The May 14 elections were not a referendum on the legitimacy of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's presidency; that is a settled and dead issue.

What I would read in the elections are the following:

First, the people from Mindanao appointed by the new administration (the Vice President, three Cabinet secretaries, the presidential adviser for Mindanao) still have to make their presence felt, to show action, both in the capital and in Mindanao. The only way for Mindanaoans to know they are "in" for good is for these appointees to interact with them and win them over to the new leadership. Sad to say, these officials were nowhere to be found during the campaign. They started to move frantically only after the elections and when they began to feel the "hot air" from Malacañang over the People Power Coalition's dismal showing in Mindanao. Either these guys were so busy with their agenda or they are politically shy or both.

Lina's fault

Second, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government has to display more knowledge of and interest in Mindanao. The DILG is not the National Capital Region or the province of Laguna. Traditionally, Mindanao has always been "delivered" to Malacañang through the local government units. Even from the time of Cong Dadong, President Diosdado Macapagal, Mindanao never parted from the presidency. Ferdinand Marcos himself learned this lesson, when Mindanao through the LGUs went for Cong Dadong.

It is interesting to note that the majority of the LGUs went over to the new administration after Edsa II. This is the reason why many former Erap LGU officials ran either with Kampi or Reforma or simply went local without any national affiliation. Sec. Lina's dismal failure to consolidate the LGUs given the impending national and local elections contributed to the PPC's performance. If there is a single person and department responsible for the PPC's electoral debacle in Mindanao, it is Lina and the DILG.

Third, during Erap's time there was this constant rhetoric about the government's focus on Mindanao. He created the Mindanao Coordinating Council and the Presidential Executive Task Force on Relief and Rehabilitation. It was all form and no substance. Oh, there were some events that took place, especially in the war-devastated areas. The all-out war against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front ended on July 9, 2000, with *lechon* feasting right inside the "holy of holies," Camp Abubakar Assidique. Under the new administration, however, the President's bright boys and girls have neither form nor substance! A real tragedy. Interact Mindanao with its primed program has still to sort out what kind of "species" it is—after three months! Erap did his MCC in less than a week.

Form without substance

Fourth, it is rather simplistic to claim that the PPC's debacle is a result of the rejection of Gloria's peace initiatives. The all-out war came to an end with the takeover of the last MILF camp. Erap established the MCC forthwith. He sought to resume the peace talks after the fall of Camp Abubakar. He personally asked the assistance of Indonesia's President Abdurrahman Wahid at the Asean summit in Brunei to mediate the "return" of the MILF to the negotiating table. If there was something positive about Erap at that time, it was his superb acting and packaging; again, form without substance. Tragedy of tragedies, the Gloria administration's bright boys and girls, especially the Armed Forces under Reyes, never packaged GMA's peace initiatives to contrast them with Erap's failures! The myth of "machismo" and the all-out war continued despite the fact that Erap himself declared it completed. Why this became an issue on May 14 was again due to the lack of historicity and contextualized approach of GMA's people.

Fifth, the Presidential Management Staff failed to connect the presidency to the general constituency of Mindanao.

Who won and who lost in Mindanao? It was not Gloria but it was not Erap either! Gloria's line-up lost, 3-10. There was some failure on the part of the bureaucracy and the Cabinet. The results are a wake-up call for Gloria. But in a sense, GMA also won—because the election results gave her the knowledge of reality on the ground and the flexibility to effect a Cabinet revamp and appoint more people-friendly secretaries. Perhaps less technocratic, but then Cabinet secretaries must *not* be technocratic. Technocrats are bought two a dime and they are everywhere. They are people for hire and not people to lead.

Talking points

IT SHOULD not come as a surprise that all three respondents find it **easier to say who did not win.** In an election with innumerable factors in play, victory on the aggregate is hard to tell. Defeat in politics, however, is like politics itself; it is eminently local.

Mr. Omi Royandoyan, who represents a non-government organization involved in peasant issues, emphasizes the artificiality of the pro- and anti-Erap divide.

"Both the administration and opposition camps do not really represent the collective sentiments of the rural poor. Both have no clear agenda on how to address massive rural poverty," he writes.

Fr. Jun Mercado, who is active in Mindanao peace advocacy, rejects simple, either-or readings, in this case of the way Mindanao voted. "The simplistic reading of this turn of events is to claim that Erap won over Gloria. Equally preposterous is the reading that the PnM's victory in Mindanao is the vindication" of the former administration's war policy.

While the Puwersa ng Masa carried Mindanao, Mercado says this is due to a combination of five factors which mitigated whatever advantage the President enjoyed as a result of the Edsa II phenomenon or her incumbency.

Mr. Gilbert Cadiz, a business journalist, seizes on the phrasing of the question itself as proof that the elections "was no cut-and-dried election."

While he calls the polls for the President, he makes an essential qualification: GMA "may now rest easy on the question of her government's legitimacy in the eyes of the people, [but] still she would have to govern with one ear constantly pressed to the ground."

In a word, all three respondents take pains to make distinctions–a welcome change from the obviously partisan spin the public hears from the various party spokesmen.

But their take on who really won the elections is markedly dissimilar.

Royandoyan seeks to understand the elections from the **point of view of relevance,** or irrelevance. For the rural poor, he says, the elections are not meaningful apart from their function as a temporary income-augmenting scheme.

Mercado **argues from opportunities lost.** He blames Sec. Joey Lina of the DILG, for instance, for his "dismal failure" to "consolidate" the local governments in Mindanao. If he had done so, then Gloria may have carried the island, the same way her father did in 1965, in his losing bid for reelection.

Cadiz contrasts the apparent reasons for the likely victories of four PnM senate candidates by **dissecting the so-called sympathy vote,** and concludes: "the overarching myth about Estrada's enduring popularity should be laid to rest with this election."*–J. Nery*

The WORLD

Wahid names new security minister

JAKARTA—Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid swore in a new top security minister and a national deputy chief on Saturday, following up a snap Cabinet reshuffle widely seen as trying to save himself from impeachment.

Wahid also released his national police chief from his duties after he refused to resign as demanded, and threatened to slap insubordination charges against the police if they did not accept the new deputy as their commander.

The appointment of the two followed a Cabinet reshuffle yesterday, which also saw the ouster of Attorney General Marzuki Darusman, and five other changes.

Wahid first swore in the new coordinating minister for politics, social and security affairs, Agum Gumelar, a retired general to replace outgoing Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Vice President Megawati Sukarnoputri, who stands to replace Wahid if he resigns or is ousted, usually swears in officials in place of the 60-year-old clinically-blind president.

But on Saturday she was conspicuous by her absence from the ceremony at the presidential palace, despite being seen as an ally of Gumelar.

Megawati was not consulted by Wahid over the reshuffle, one of the president's aides has said.

Wahid also personally swore in the new deputy chief of the national police force, Commissioner General Chaeruddin Ismail, despite having issued a decree in April abolishing the post from the police chain of command.

Deputy police chiefs in the past have been sworn in by the police chief based on an appointment by presidential decree.

In the decree appointing Ismail, Wahid also decommissioned National Police Chief General Suroyo Bimantoro who refused to relinquish his command.

"Yesterday the national police chief demanded to be non-activated. The ranks of the police should accept this and whoever does not, will be considered to be insubordinate and this violates the law," Wahid said. *AFP*

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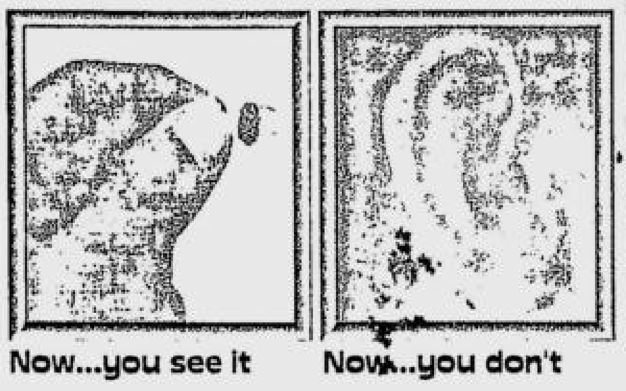

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lead product management efforts and handle the entire product cycle.

REQUIREMENTS:
- At least 2 years experience handling the marketing of Internet-related products
- Understanding and appreciation of Web technology and Web-based applications preferred
- Relevant experience in any of the following:
  - Product Manager 1 - marketing of Internet prepaid cards, presently has a network of distributors and dealers
  - Product Manager 2 - marketing of Internet connectivity: Web hosting, DNS hosting, dedicated dial up, dial up, server co-location, leased lines
  - Product Manager 3 - business development, joining/organizing trade shows, catalogue selling/publishing

» DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS (2)
manage and tune databases and the applications accessing those databases.

REQUIREMENTS:
- BS Computer Science (or any allied course) degree holder from a reputable school
- Expert knowledge in SQL programming
- Relevant experience in database management, administration, and security, preferably Oracle RDBMS

» KNOWLEDGE MANAGER (1)
develops and sustains the company's vision and strategy for knowledge management.

REQUIREMENTS:
- At least 3 years direct experience in MIS administration in a multi-platform environment
- Expert knowledge in:
  - relational database, client/server systems, and Internet-based technology
  - Web-based collaboration and messaging systems
  - collaboration software

» SENIOR NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER (1)
supports network operations and primarily handles working equipment.

REQUIREMENTS:
- ECE (or any allied course) degree holder from a reputable school
- At least 2 years experience in LAN and Internet communications (WAN)
- Expert knowledge in EIGRP and BGP4
- IC/RC and AC/RC certification a definite advantage

* Applicants should display project management expertise and strong leadership in a team environment.

For more information, visit the **OneHundred** Services Inc. Web site at **http://careers.100.ph.**
If you're interested, you can email your résumé to **careers@100.ph**

FEATI UNIVERSITY
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

ENROLLMENT SCHEDULE
FIRST SEMESTER 2001-2002
COLLEGIATE & VOCATIONAL

First Year (New Students) Enrolees . . . May 2 to June 12, 2001
Resident Students: All Years . . . . June 1 to June 12, 2001

CLASSES START JUNE 13, 2001

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

New First Year Enrolees:	Transfer Students:	Resident Students:
1. High School Card (Form 138)	*1. Honorable Dismissal*	*1. Academic Record Booklet signed by parents or guardians.*
2. Two (2) copies 5 cms. x 5 cms. picture	*2. Certificate of good moral character.*	*2. Last Semester's grades.*
	3. Transcript of Records or latest grades.	

COURSES OFFERED

- MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION
- MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT
- MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING.
- B.S. IN AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY COURSE
- B.S. IN ARCHITECTURE
- B.S. IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN CIVIL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING.
- B.S. IN GEODETIC ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN MARINE ENGINEERING
- TWO YEAR MARINE TRANSPORTATION
- B.S. IN MATHEMATICS
- B.S. IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
- B.S. IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
  Major in: ECONOMICS MANAGEMENT BANKING & FINANCE
- B.S. IN INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION
  Major in: AUTO DIESEL ELECTRONICS MACHINE SHOP COMPUTER
- BACHELOR OF ARTS (A.B.)
  Major in: ENGLISH ECONOMICS FILIPINO MATHEMATICS
- BACHELOR IN SECONDARY EDUCATION
  Major in: ENGLISH FILIPINO ECONOMICS MATHEMATICS
- BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS
- ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY
- THREE-YEAR COMPUTER ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
- TWO-YEAR ELECTRONICS COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
- TWO-YEAR ASSOCIATE IN COMPUTER COMMERCIAL SCIENCE
- TWO-YEAR BROADCAST TECHNICIAN COURSE
- TWO-YEAR COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN COURSE
- TWO-YEAR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE TECHNICIAN
- TWO-YEAR COMPUTER SECRETARIAL COURSE
- TWO-YEAR CERTIFICATE IN AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY COURSE
- ONE-YEAR AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC COURSE
- ONE-YEAR DIESEL ENGINE MECHANICAL COURSE
- ONE-YEAR ELECTRONICS SERVICEMAN COURSE (Radio Receivers) (ESC/RDO)
- ONE-YEAR ELECTRONICS SERVICEMAN COURSE (TV Receivers) (ESC/TV)
- ONE-YEAR MACHINE SHOP TECHNICIAN COURSE
- ONE-YEAR SHEET METAL TECHNICIAN COURSE
- COMPUTER SHORT COURSES
- CAD (COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN)

COMPUTER SUBJECTS ARE BEING OFFERED TO COMPLEMENT COURSES IN SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT. COMPUTER EQUIPMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE UNIVERSITY COMPUTER CENTER.

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Individual Requirements:
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Iraq rejects extension of oil-for-food program

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz summoned the ambassadors of Russia, China and Tunisia on yesterday and informed them of Baghdad's rejection of any one-month extension to the UN oil-for-food program, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

Late yesterday at the UN headquarters in New York, the UN Security Council voted unanimously for the short-term extension designed to allow council members time to further study a British "smart sanctions" proposal.

Aziz had told the ambassadors that adopting the extension "will not inflict damage on Iraq alone, but also on its Arab and friendly partners," the agency said.

Russia and China are among the five veto-wielding permanent members on the Security Council; Tunisia occupies a nonpermanent seat in the Council.

Iraqi foreign ministry Undersecretary Riyadh Al-Qaisi criticized the extension late yesterday night for having "political goals."

"The necessity of extending the humanitarian program was exploited by a British-American game," Al-Qaisi said in an interview with the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera satellite television station. "The aim was not to extend the humanitarian program, but the aim was to put a foothold to make the (Security) Council oblige itself to study the British-American project and reach an outcome within a month."

Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, Mohammed al-Douri, has said Iraq would not sign any new oil contracts during the extension period. Iraq also has threatened to halt oil sales under the program if the British proposal is ultimately adopted.

The oil-for-food program, which allows Iraq to sell unlimited amounts of oil but strictly regulates how money can be spent, generally is renewed every six months. The current six-month phase expires Sunday.

Britain and the United States had hoped for approval before then of their plan to adjust the sanctions program, which has been widely criticized as harmful only to Iraqi civilians. However, the one-month extension was viewed as a compromise that avoids authorizing another full six months yet gives skeptics of Britain's proposal time to study it.

The so-called smart sanctions proposal—backed by the United States and rejected by Baghdad—aims to allow free flow of civilian goods into Iraq except for items that appear on a UN list of military-related items.

It also permits commercial and cargo flights in and out of Iraq, but requires they be inspected at their departure points. It is designed to tighten border controls around Iraq and to curb oil smuggling and illegal Iraqi surcharges.

In related events yesterday:

- The US State Department announced in Washington the release of more than $800-million worth of contracts for civilian goods for Iraq that had been on hold. Details on the nature of the contracts were not provided.
- The first direct flight from Germany to Baghdad, a Bulgarian plane carrying more than 100 activists, arrived from Frankfurt.

Passengers, like those who have arrived on similar flights in the past year from Arab and European nations, said they came to show their solidarity with the Iraqi people living under sanctions. It wasn't immediately known whether the flight had the approval of the UN sanctions committee. *AP*

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ENROLLMENT GOING ON • CLASSES START JUNE 13
COLLEGE ENTRANCE TEST CONDUCTED DAILY UNTIL JUNE 13
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COURSES OFFERED

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Doctor of Business Administration, majors: Financial Management, Production Operations Management, Marketing Management, Human Resource Management
Doctor of Education (EdD), major in Educational Administration and Leadership
Master in Business Administration (MBA, Thesis or non-Thesis)
Master in Construction Management (MCM, Thesis or non-Thesis)
Master of Arts in Education (MAEd), majors: Educational Administration, English as a Second Language, Library Science, Filipino
Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), majors: Biological Science, English, Filipino, Mathematics, History, Political Science, Physical Education
Master of Public Administration (MPA)
Master of Science (MS), major in Environmental Education
Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS)
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
****Doctor of Dental Medicine** (DDM)
****Bachelor of Science** (BS), majors: Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Library and Information Science, Psychology, Statistics
****Bachelor of Arts** (AB), majors: Communication Arts, Economics, English, Filipino, History, Political Science, Sociology, Legal Management, International Studies
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy
****Bachelor of Science in Business Administration** (BSBA), majors: Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Marketing
BSBA Management—a specialized program for entrepreneurs, or for executives in private enterprises or in government, or for officers in the AFP, without a college degree.
***Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
****Bachelor of Secondary Education** (BSED), majors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, General Science, English, Filipino, History, Math and PEHM (combination of PE, Health Education and Music), Guidance and Counseling, Home Economics, Computer Education
****Bachelor of Elementary Education** (BSEED) with areas of specialization in English, Filipino, Home Economics and Technology, Math, PE, Science and Health, Social Studies, pre-School or Early Childhood Education, Guidance and Counseling in Elementary Level
Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
Associate in Computer Technology (2-year Course)
****Associate in Arts** (pre-Dentistry)
Associate in Business Administration (ABA)
Certificate in Professional Education (one-year program for degree holders)
Computer Technician • Electronics Technician

CALOOCAN CAMPUS 105 SAMSON ROAD, CALOOCAN CITY

Bachelor of Arts (AB) in Communication Arts
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA), majors: Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Marketing
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering
Bachelor of Fine Arts, majors: Advertising, Painting, Interior Design
Associate in Arts (pre-Dentistry)
Machine Shop Technician (one-year course)

The first two years of the 5-year Engineering academic program will be undertaken either at the Manila Campus or the Caloocan Campus and the remaining three years will be completed at the Caloocan Campus.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SERVICE GRANTS AVAILABLE TO THE QUALIFIED

A. The New Integrated Scholarship Program

(1.) A **University President Scholar**: Free full tuition and miscellaneous fees; a stipend of P1,200 per month; and Book allowance of P1,500. (2.) A **University Scholar**: Free full tuition and miscellaneous fees. (3.) A **College Scholar**: 50% discount on tuition and miscellaneous fees

Enrolled freshmen who graduated valedictorian and salutatorian automatically qualify as University Scholars and College Scholars, respectively.

B. President Francisco Dalupan Sr. Scholarship

Graduates with Latin honors, who wish to be admitted to the College of Law or to the Graduate School or to the UE Center for Review and Special Studies, if BS Accountancy graduates, shall enjoy free tuition fee.

C. UE-Tan Yan Kee Foundation, Inc. (TYKFI) Scholarships

(1.) UE-TYKFI Undergraduate Program

UE-TYKFI offers scholarship to highly qualified high school graduates interested in pursing undergraduate degrees in Engineering, Computer Science, Information Technology, Mathematics, Sciences (including Biology, Physics and Chemistry), Accountancy or Dentistry. (1.) **Full scholars**: Free full tuition and miscellaneous fees; Book allowance of P1,500 per semester; Uniform subsidy of P1,000 per semester; Transportation allowance of P1,000 per semester or P200 per month; and a Stipend of P2,500 per month. (2.) **Half scholars**: Free full tuition and miscellaneous fees and receive half the amount for book and transportation allowances, uniform subsidy and stipend.

(2.) UE-TYFI Master's and Doctorate Program for Faculty Development

Faculty scholars in both programs: (1.) Full study leave with pay computed on the basis of his/her hourly rate for 24 hours or its equivalent during a regular semester; nine (9) hours or its equivalent during summer (in Engineering, Information Technology, Computer Science, Accountancy, Dentistry, Sciences or Mathematics); (2.) Free tuition and other school fees; (3.) Monthly stipend of P5,000; (4.) Book allowance of P1,000 and P1,500 under the MA and Doctorate program respectively; and (5.) Health insurance within the duration of the scholarship

D. The Integrated Service Grant Program

Free tuition and miscellaneous fees in full or in part for the Athletic Service Grant and the Cultural Service Grant for members of the Drama Workshop, the UE Chorale, the Dance Troupe, the UE Band and the Cheering Squad.

E. Presidential Decree 577 Scholarship Grant

For a dependent (spouse, unmarried child, parent or the next in kin) of military personnel who died or became incapacitated in the line of duty: Free full tuition and miscellaneous fees.

F. Student Assistantship Program

Intellectually capable students willing and able to work for four (4) hours of service in the department/office of the University: Free tuition and miscellaneous fees, and a monthly allowance of P600.

G. Golden Plan

UE gives a special discount of 25% on tuition fee to its recent graduates and 20% discount on said fee to all alumni who graduated 2 years prior to the implementation of this plan in SY 1992-93, to assist at affordable costs all UE alumni who wish to pursue their graduate studies.

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UE CALOOCAN – Office of Admissions, G/F Administration Bldg., tel. no. 365-41-24; Office of the Registrar, G/F Administration Bldg., tel. no. 364-26-01 • http: // www.uec.edu.ph • e-mail: admission@uec.edu.ph

Republic of the Philippines
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
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INVITATION TO BID

Interested parties are invited to bid for the:

CONTRACT FOR JANITORIAL SERVICE

The Public Bidding will be held at 10:00 a.m. on June 29, 2001 at the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) Social Hall, Philippine Sugar Center Building, Diliman, Quezon City.

Pre-qualification forms may be secured from the Secretariat, 3rd Floor, Annex Building, SRA Compound starting June 5, 2001. Deadline for submission is on June 11, 2001.

Bid forms at Php100.00/set shall be issued by the Secretariat to pre-qualified bidders on June 18, 2001.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bidder's bond either in Cash, Cashier's/ Manager's Check or GSIS bond equivalent to 10% of the total bid price.

SRA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any formality or defect therein and accept the bid most advantageous to the office.

(Sgd.) JAMES C. LEDESMA
Administrator

(PDI – June 2,3 & 4, 2001)

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B.S. MARINE ENGINEERING
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B.S. COMPUTER SCIENCE
SEAFARER RATING COURSE
ADVANCE NAVAL ROTC

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- *DAILY ENTRANCE EXAMS FOR NEW STUDENTS (FREE)*
- *CLASSES START JUNE 13, 2001*

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

New Students	Transferees
Form 138 (High School Card)	Honorable Dismissal
Certificate of Good Moral Character	T.O.R. or Cert. of Grades

Two (2) 1"x 1" I.D. Picture
Photocopy of Birth Certificate
One (1) long brown envelope

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SCHOOL YEAR 2001-02

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- ARCHITECTURE
- COMMERCE
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- DENTISTRY
- EDUCATION (New Major: COMPUTER EDUCATION)
- ENGINEERING (Civil, Computer, Electrical, Electronics and Communications, Industrial, Mechanical, Sanitary)
- LIBERAL ARTS
- PHARMACY

GRADUATE STUDIES
- DOCTOR OF EDUCATION Major in Educational Management
- MASTER OF ARTS Major in Public Administration
- MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION - M.A. Major in Educational Management, Mathematics Education, Pilipino

- SPECIAL EDUCATION Major in Mental Retardation, Hearing Impairment Giftedness and Children with Behavioral Problems)
- GRADUATE STUDIES IN SANITARY ENGINEERING

SHORT COURSES
- Building Construction Management (3 years)
- Geodetic Science (3 years)
- Architectural Drafting (2 years)
- Commercial Science (2 years)
- Computer Secretarial (2 years)
- Dental Hygiene (2 years)
- Dental Laboratory Technician (1 year)
- Junior Secretarial (2 years)

- HIGH SCHOOL
- ELEMENTARY

ENROLLMENT NOW GOING ON
CLASSES START JUNE 14
ELEMENTARY & HIGH SCHOOL START JUNE 4

Admission Requirements
Form 138, Certificate of Good Moral Character, 2x2 pictures
Entrance examinations conducted daily
Honorable Dismissal and Transcript of Record (for transfer students)
Scholarship grants for Valedictorians, Salutatorian and Hon. Mention Graduates

NU

AMAES founder Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V, addressing the 18,000 graduates at recent AMA commencement exercises at the PICC.

AMA OFFERS EASY TUITION PAYMENT SCHEME

Availing the acknowledged best Information Technology education in the country has been made easy with the AMA Education System's (AMAES) affordable tuition fee payment scheme - the Student Loan Program (SLP).

Through SLP, students of the AMA Computer College (AMACC), AMA Computer Learning Center (ACLC), AMA Telecommunications and Electronics Center (AMATEL) and ABE International College of Business and Economics could avail either a 50 percent deferred payment of a 500 pesos down payment with interest as low as 12 percent per year.

Under the 50 percent deferred payment scheme, AMAES students in the National Capital Region (NCR) who pay an average of 17,942.22 pesos per trimester is only required to give an initial 8,971.10 pesos and 837.30 pesos monthly installment payable for 12 months.

On the other hand, students in the provincial branches of AMAES who pay an average of 12,521.87 pesos per trimester will only pay 6,260.94 pesos initial payment and 584.35 pesos monthly installment.

In the second scheme where a 500 pesos down payment only is necessary, a student will only have to pay 1,627.94 pesos per month for twelve months for the NCR students while a monthly installment of 1,122.04 pesos is required for those students in the provincial branches.

AMAES founder Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V said the program was design to ease the burden of parents in paying the school fees of their children. "SLP is our little way of empathizing with parents who are always taken advantage of by greedy loan sharks particularly during enrolment time."

Through the new loan program, AMAES executive vice-president Manuel F. Abad said computer education in the Philippines would no longer intimidate those parents who are anxious to send their children to school due to excessive school fees.

"SLP is our gesture of somehow giving equal opportunity to the rich and the poor when it comes to education particularly computer education because we do not want the poor to be left behind in this age of information technology," Abad added.

Enrolment at AMACC, ACLC, AMATEL and ABE is still on-going. For inquiries, call the AMA Marketing Department at 3739920 or at 3726439. Look for Bobby Bausanta for AMACC, Pinky Custodio for ACLC and AMATEL and Mar Vital for ABE. *(Maria Teresa Mapalo)*

AMA OFFERS ADVANTAGE PROGRAMS FOR TRANSFEREES AND WORKING STUDENTS

In line with the AMA Education System's (AMAES) goal of making its acknowledged best IT degree-based education in the country accessible to everybody, two advantage programs have been put in place for the AMA Computer College (AMACC) - the Transfer Student Privilege (TSP) and the Flexible Student Schedule Privilege (FSSP).

Under the TSP program, a student from another school who wishes to transfer to AMACC will be given the privilege to have his first two years' general courses credited as long as they have equivalent subjects under the AMACC curriculum.

According to AMAES founder Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V, TSP was designed to help students from other schools who want to avail the world-class computer education of AMACC finish their courses at a lesser cost and on time despite spending years in other schools.

FSSP program, on the other hand, permits working students combine work and school. This allows them change their schedules even in the middle of the semester if their jobs demand for it.

AMAES president Amable C. Aguiluz IX said FSSP is the AMAES' little way of easing the burden of working students.

"We are very much aware of the difficulty experienced by working students who, in their desire to finish college, have to sweat to support their studies. As our salute to the labor of these students, we offer them this FSSP program" he added.

IT integration in ABE International College curriculum

AMA Education System (AMAES), the leader and dominant provider of Information Technology degree-based education in the country introduces the ABE International College of Business and Economics, the first and only Philippine business school with global recognition. At ABE, you can earn an international business degree locally and affordably.

ABE's curriculum is well-crafted to international standards through AMAES' affiliation with the Association of Business Executives of the United Kingdom, an international accreditation body accepted in 78 countries worldwide recognized for overseas employment.

Unlike other business schools in the Philippines, ABE is supported by AMAES' world-class facilities and proven experience in computer technology, ensuring its students of: a) world-class business education; b) the best IT training in the country, and c) an international business diploma to open doors to the global job market.

A student armed with an ABE International diploma can land the best business executive jobs at any point of the globe. He could be a-marketing executive in Singapore, a stockbroker in New York, a hotel resort manager in the Mediterranean or even a boss in Manila. As they say at ABE, ***"YOU GOTTA BE SOMEBODY!"***

Despite the world-class business and IT education provided by the ABE, it boasts of its affordable tuition fee and easy payment schemes.

AMAES founder Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V says that the low cost of ABE tuition fee is AMAES' way of giving the poor an opportunity to avail a world-class business and IT education. ***"It is our goal at the AMAES to give Filipinos quality education that is accessible not only to the well-offs but also to the can't affords particularly in this era of rising New World Economy."***

Courses offered by ABE are Bachelor of Science in Accountancy; BS Business Administration Majors in Financial Management, Entrepreneurship, Management, e-Marketing and Management Accounting; BS Hotel and Restaurant Management, BS Tourism, BS Business Economics and Certificate in Business Administration.

There are now 17 ABE campuses nationwide located in Cainta, Caloocan, Quezon City, Las Piñas, Recto, Cabanatuan, Calamba, Cavite, Dagupan, Lipa, Lucena, Tuguegarao, Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo and Tacloban.

Enrolment at the different ABE campuses is on-going. For particulars, look for Mayet of the ABE Operations at 371-16-65 / 373-9920.

An ABE College branch at Cainta where students can earn international business degrees affordably.

LOOK WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT AMA COMPUTER COLLEGE!

In a report entitled "The State and Direction of Information and Communications Technology Education in the Philippine Tertiary Education," Commissioner Punzal of CHED includes this item:

"Instructed to list five (5) institutions, including the respondent's institution, which schools offer quality ICT Education Program?" **AMA Computer College was ranked no. 1 by its peer institutions.**

The questionnaires were accomplished mostly by school presidents, administrative directors and deans and ICT heads of the 217 participating private and public schools in 13 CHED Regional Offices nationwide.

INSTITUTION	*PERCENTAGE*
AMA Computer College	32.09%
De La Salle University	24.19%
Ateneo de Manila University	17.67%
University of the Philippines	12.09%
Ateneo de Naga University	7.44%

MHPunzal
DR. MANUEL D. PUNZAL
Commissioner, CHED
4th Higher Education National Congress
May 17, 2001- Manila Midtown Hotel

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

RECOMMENDED COMPUTER SCHOOLS

The SWS presented a "Report on the Survey Items Commissioned by the AMA Group of Companies" conducted from June 20-July 7, 2000. The "Highlights" included the following entries:

Most Recommended Computer School:
AMA = 50 % of respondents.

Those recommending AMA increased from 39% in March 2000 to 50% in June-July, 2000.

MOST RECOMMENDED COMPUTER SCHOOL: OVERALL

SWS June 20 - July 7, 2000
National Survey
Base: Total interviews

AMA	50%
LA SALLE	3%
ATENEO	2%
UP	2%
UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO	1%

MOST RECOMMENDED COMPUTER SCHOOL: RANK 1

SWS June 20 - July 7, 2000
National Survey
Base: Total who gave any computer school a ranking of 1

AMA	67%
UP	2%
ATENEO	1%
LA SALLE	1%
UC- (UNIVERSITY OF CEBU)	1%

MOST RECOMMENDED COMPUTER SCHOOL: OVERALL

SWS June 20 - July 7, 2000
National Survey
Base: Total who are not aware of any advertisement about AMA Computer College

AMA	34 %
LA SALLE	1%
LYCEUM	1%
UC - (UNIVERSITY OF CEBU)	1%
University of Mindanao	1%

MOST RECOMMENDED COMPUTER SCHOOL: OVERALL

SWS June 20 - July 7, 2000
National Survey
Base: Total with much trust in AMA Computer College

AMA	72%
LA SALLE	4%
ATENEO	2%
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Boy in Idaho stalemate surrenders

SANDPOINT, Idaho—One of the six children locked in a stalemate with authorities turned himself in yesterday, the first break in a four-day impasse that began with their mother's arrest for neglect.

Benjamin McGuckin, 15, was driven here—about 16 km north of the decaying family home in the backwoods near Garfield Bay—late Thursday by a neighbor.

Authorities said the boy appears to be willing to help resolve the conflict, which capped a yearslong series of disappointments and loss.

"He could convince them that nothing bad will happen," Bonner County Prosecutor Phil Robinson said.

Five siblings remain at the house—Kathryn, 16; Mary, 13; James, 11; Frederick, 9; and Jane, 8—but the sheriff was reluctant to call the situation a standoff. The oldest sister, 19-year-old Erina, who left the house after a falling out with her parents, also has been working with authorities.

"We hope that maybe they can give us some insight into how to wind this thing down," Robinson said.

Erina McGuckin's concerns about conditions at the home formed the basis of charges against mother JoAnn McGuckin, who was arrested Tuesday for investigation of child neglect and held on $100,000 bail.

When deputies went to the house after her arrest to collect the children, authorities said, Benjamin yelled "Get the guns!" and set loose more than two dozen dogs.

Deputies decided to wait the children out, anticipating they would run out of food. However, the director of a local food bank said the family had received 90 kg of staples last Friday, the day the children's father, Michael McGuckin, was buried.

The coroner attributed Michael McGuckin's May 12 death to malnutrition and dehydration. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Mock Taiwan invasion

BEIJING—Large-scale Chinese war games that include a practice invasion of an island near Taiwan are a warning not to underestimate Beijing's determination to use force to rein in Taiwan, state media said yesterday. Taiwan's government said the drills codenamed "Liberation One," which start this month on Dongshan island off the southeastern Chinese coast, opposite Taiwan, were routine and no cause for alarm. *AP*

UN-Taliban tensions

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan—Rising tensions between the United Nations and Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia are threatening vital humanitarian aid in the drought- and war-ravaged country. The UN coordinator for Afghanistan yesterday said the Taliban care more about waging war and imposing "pure" Islam than their people's welfare. The Taliban foreign minister, meanwhile, accused US women's groups of fomenting discord between the Islamic militia and the United Nations. The Taliban's clashes with the United Nations and world relief organizations jeopardize a hard fought separation between politics and humanitarian work—and come amid the worst drought in 30 years. The United Nations has given the Taliban until June 15 to allow the UN World Food Program to hire women to help assess hunger needs in Afghanistan—a measure the WFP says is necessary for its bread distribution program but which the Taliban says is a violation of Islam. *AP*

Colombian women devise new way of fleecing men

BOGOTA—Three young Colombian women preyed on men by smearing their breasts with a powerful drug and luring the victims into taking a lick, before making off with their wallets and cars, police said.

The women stood by the side of the road near bars and restaurants in wealthy parts of the capital Bogota, striking seductive poses to lure men driving by to stop, a police spokesperson said.

After licking the women's breasts, the men lost all will power. They came to their senses hours later to find they had lost their wallets and cars but with no memory of what had happened.

The three women, in their late teens or early 20s, were arrested in Bogota in possession of powerful narcotic pills.

"They dissolved the pills in water and rubbed it into their breasts," the spokesperson said. *Reuters*

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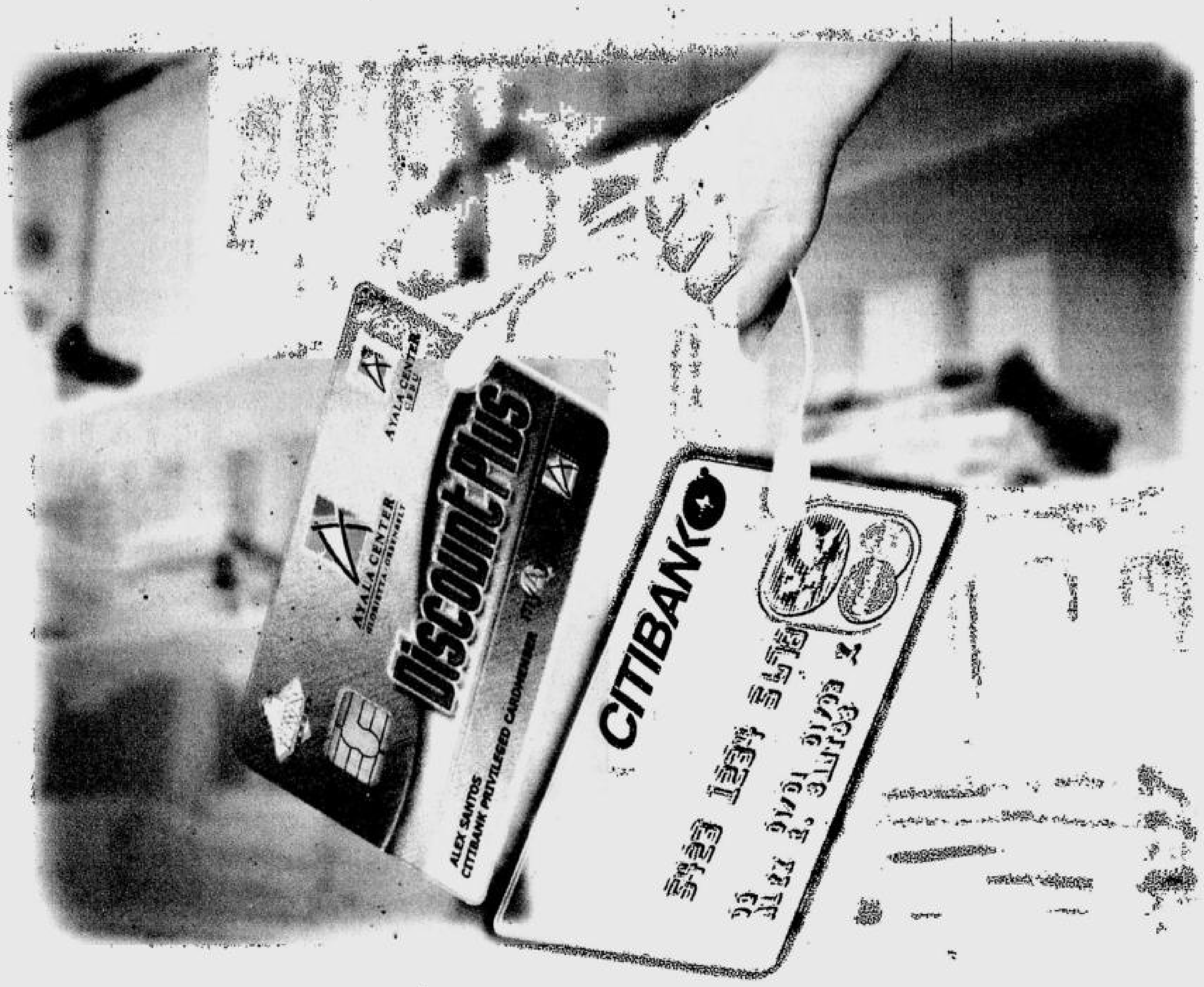

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ROUNDUP

5 NPA rebels slain

CARAGA, Davao Oriental—Five members of the communist New People's Army were killed in separate military attacks in two villages here. Maj. Alexis Gopico, commander of the Army's 8th Special Forces Battalion, said three rebels were killed in an encounter in Sitio Bua, Barangay San Isidro, on May 30, while two others were killed yesterday in Sitio Bobon, Barangay Sobrecarey.

Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

700 homes energized

TABACO CITY—More than 700 households will benefit from two electrification projects in Malilipot and Bacacay towns, both in Albay, and this city. Albay Rep. Krisel Lagman-Luistro said the Bonot-Basagan, Nagsipit-Mariroc and Visita San Miguel electrification projects were switched on last week to service at least four upland villages and one on an island of this city. She said President Macapagal-Arroyo had pledged P1.5 million for the development of power projects in the city.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Fish exports rise

DAVAO CITY—The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Southern Mindanao said the mad cow scare and the apparent recovery of the canning operators in the region has resulted to an increase in fish exports. Gil Adora, BFAR regional director, said the disease had created a demand for more fish in Europe. They expect to produce 240,000 metric tons of fish this year, up from 40,000 MT last year, he said.

Joel B. Escovilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Boat sinks; 8 saved

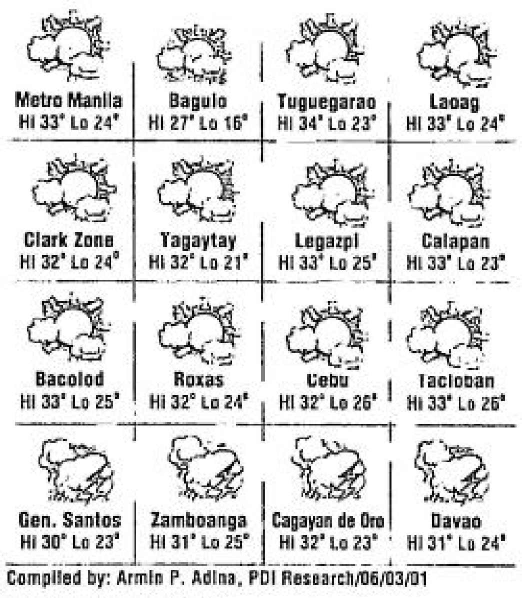
ZAMBOANGA CITY—A small cargo boat capsized and sank near the coast of Barangay Caragasan here. The boat, named ML Lea Mae, loaded with 600 sacks of cement, met powerful waves as heavy rain and strong winds hit the city Friday evening. All eight passengers were recovered by 10:30 p.m. Friday and brought to the Zamboanga City Medical Center. The boat left the Zamboanga pier around 6 p.m. en route to Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte. Its skipper, Capt. Ricardo Crisostomo, tried to negotiate through the high waves and maneuvered the vessel to dock at Recodo Barangay.

Alexander Young, PDI Mindanao Bureau

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao and Palawan will be mostly cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country wil have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE PAGASA



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Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/06/03/01

PDI BUREAUS

Northern Luzon Bureau
Central Luzon Desk
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop,
Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail:
inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Visayas Bureau
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18-15 Escario St.,
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Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346 / 233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
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Southern Luzon Bureau
Barangay 34 (Oro site),
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 480-8099
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail:
inq_bicol@inquirer.com .ph

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Meet presses Islamic state

CROSSING SIMUAY, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao—The Moro people in mainland Mindanao have asked the Macapagal administration to grant them independence, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and United Nations to help them attain it.

Organizers of the 2nd Bangsamoro Consultative Assembly said the gathering, which it described as a people's initiative, ended with the Moro people's cry for independence.

Speakers from various provinces and cities of Mindanao took turns in saying that "independence is the only solution to (the) Bangsamoro problem."

"Independence is non-negotiable, territory is negotiable," Prof. Abhoud Syed Mansur-Lingga, chair of the Ulama Professional Executive Committee, told a news conference here.

"We want a separate country, separate nation, separate government," he said, stressing the assembly was not dictated by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"We are not fanatic to any organization. This is not an MILF-backed activity," he said.

"This is the people's voice," he said.

Lingga estimated the crowd, scattered in the 10-kilometer stretch of the highway in Barangay Simuay here, as bigger than half a million people who attended the first assembly in December 1996.

But Army Maj. Julieto Ando, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said the crowd numbered "between 10,000 and 15,000."

MEET/p.14

6 jail escapees killed in clash

By ROLY EMBILE
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—Six of the 20 inmates who bolted the Masbate provincial jail on Sunday were killed Friday in a firefight with pursuing authorities in Sitio Baclay, Barangay Bacolod in Milagros town, Masbate.

Reports reaching the police regional office at Camp Gen. Simeon Ola here identified the fatalities as Edgar Victoria, Jr., 23; Anastacio Laurio, 25; and four others surnamed Basas, Sicap, Barruga and Quintog.

Chief Supt. Robert Delfin, police regional director, said the six were among the inmates who escaped from the Masbate jail in Barangay Matiporon, Milagros town.

Delfin said a team of jail guards on a manhunt operation chanced upon the escapees resting under a cluster of trees.

The team claimed the fugitives fired upon its members first, forcing them to return fire.

Victoria and Laurio, who were detained for murder, led the jailbreak on Sunday night. They stabbed jail guard Rodolfo Gonzales and shot him with his service shotgun.

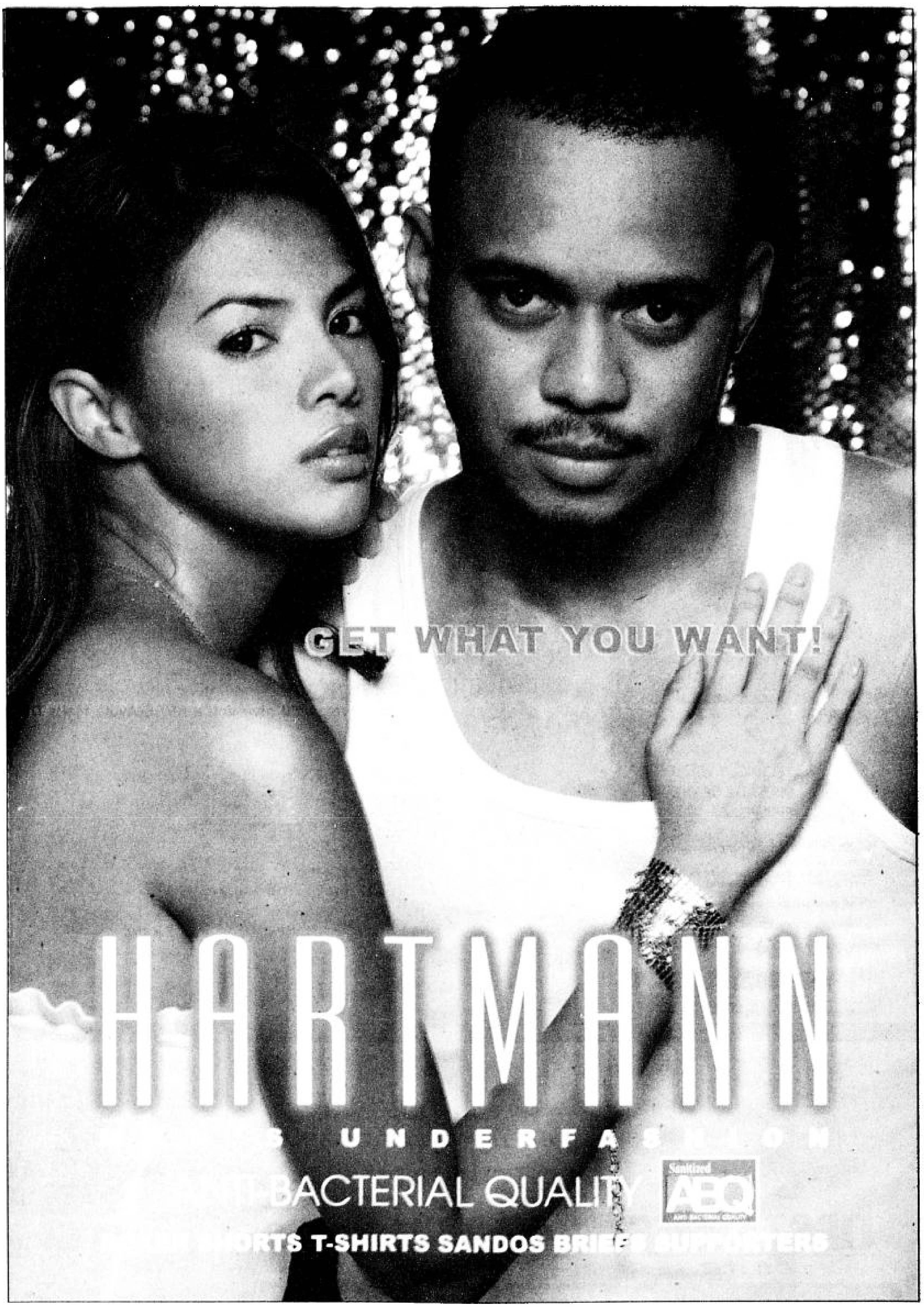
Earlier, six inmates from the provincial jail were arrested by an Army patrol on special assignment in the island-province.

Several M-16 rifles and other high-powered firearms, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were confiscated from them.

Col. Pendatun Guro, Armed Forces regional spokesperson, said the inmates were reportedly freed, armed and hired by a local politician.

On May 14, four more armed men, who were later found to be inmates missing from the provincial jail, were killed in a firefight with police in Barangay Buenavista, San Fernando, Masbate.

They were identified as Romeo Bacolod, Gerry Agao, Rodolfo Capinig and Jun Dacomol.



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ANOTHER REPORTER SLAIN

Int'l group urges probe of radioman's killing

DAVAO CITY—The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) condemned the killing of Zamboanga City radio commentator Candelario Cayona and urged President Macapagal-Arroyo "to ensure that the murder investigation is conducted in a thorough and impartial manner."

The CPJ statement came even as another Filipino journalist was killed in Occidental Mindoro.

Joy Mortel, a reporter of the quarterly newspaper Mindoro Guardian, was killed on May 31 by two unidentified armed men in her house at Sitio Barangkit, Barangay Talabahan, Mamburao, some 20 kilometers from the town proper.

Supt. Winston Everson, Occidental Mindoro police deputy director, said the assailants went to Mortel's place, about five kilometers from the highway, early morning and had a heated argument with her.

Mortel's husband, who was boiling water for coffee at the kitchen, reportedly heard gunshots and immediately rushed to find out what happened.

He saw his wife dead on the floor and the suspects already gone, Everson said.

Outspoken

In a statement sent to President Macapagal-Arroyo, the CPJ said it "believes that Cayona may have been killed in response to his journalistic work."

Cayona, an outspoken commentator of radio dxLL in Zamboanga City, was on his way to work on May 30 when motorcycle-riding gunmen shot him four times in the face and body.

The victim had often criticized local politicians and the military, the New York-based nonpartisan organization dedicated to the defense of press freedom said.

Cayona is the second dxLL commentator to be murdered. In 1998, Rey Bancayrin, another outspoken commentator, was on air when two unidentified gunmen burst into the studio and shot him dead.

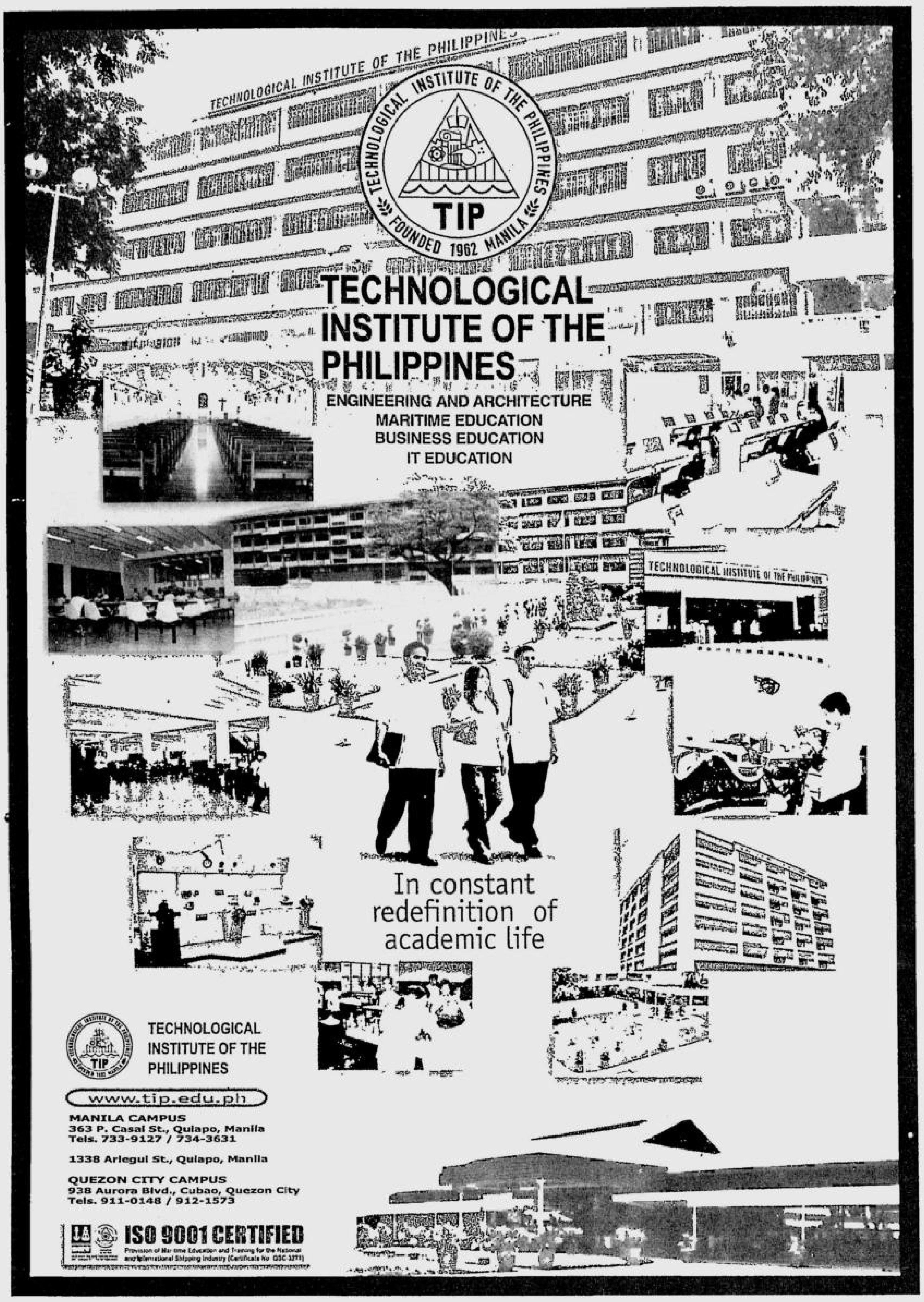
Cayona was the 37th Filipino journalist killed in the line of duty since the fall of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Most of the killings remain unsolved to date.

"This impunity undermines the relative press freedom that exists in the Philippines and can only tarnish the country's international reputation," the CPJ said.

"The CPJ calls on Your Excellency to ensure that Philippine law enforcement authorities bring Candelario Cayona's killers to justice," the letter, signed by executive director Ann K. Cooper, said.

It asked that the findings be made public.

The CPJ urged the government to "take steps to ensure that all journalists in the Philippines may work in safety." *Joey R.B. Lozano, PDI Mindanao Bureau, and Floreño G. Solmirano, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*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DOST to support indigenous scholars

BAGUIO CITY—Despite its small budget, the Department of Science and Technology will support indigenous students who are developing technologies to boost agriculture and trade in the Cordillera.

During a press forum here on Wednesday, regional DOST officials said many Cordillera students were inclined to undertake studies on agriculture but could not do so because of rising tuition.

Dr. Osmond Belmonte, chief of the technical division of the DOST-CAR, said many students have invented technologies suited for the enhancement of the vast agricultural farms in the Cordillera.

The Cordillera is known for its landlocked agricultural areas; thus, farming has been the primary source of livelihood among its residents.

DOST officials admitted that the rising tuition and school fees have hampered their scholarship support to scientifically-inclined students.

They lamented that the tuition for college and high school students had more than doubled in recent years.

"We have an agreement with the parents (to shoulder the rest of the expenses) because we have only P4,000 to give to our scholars. But they will have P2,000 a month for allowances," Dr. Rogelio Ladilad, regional DOST director, said.

Cordillera inventor Roland Labador noted that the DOST had used P24 million from the P166-million grants to finance science fairs, foreign tours and inventors' conferences.

The DOST-CAR has 608 scholars this year who are studying in state colleges and universities in the Cordillera. From 2,000 applicants, 68 have qualified for scholarships, DOST officials said.

Belmonte said they would focus more on scholars who are concentrating on engineering and agriculture studies. The last time that the region produced a young inventor was in 1993 when Benjamin Luis, a third year high school student from Benguet State University, initiated the culturing of mushrooms from paper and sawdust. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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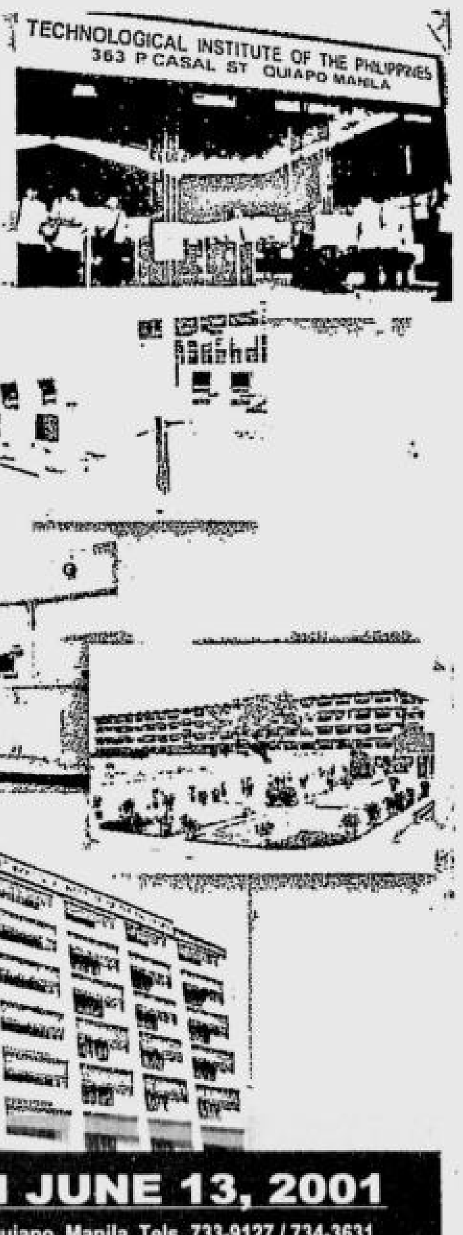
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Meet presses Islamic state

(From page 13)

Lingga said people came at their own expense. "We have no money to pay for their transportation, they brought their own food."

Organizers also launched "*Piso-Piso para sa* (a peso for) Independence." People from all walks of life rushed to the stage to give their peso for the cause. Some gave P500 and P1,000 bills, reports said.

"We give the MILF a conditional authority to work for the Bangsamoro's desire in a peaceful way," Lingga said.

"If the MILF would talk with the GRP on issues other than independence, then that authority is automatically withdrawn," Lingga said.

Asked how the Bangsamoro would attain independence, Lingga said: "The Muslim civil society will go through peaceful and democratic means, like a referendum."

Lingga also asked the government to administer the referendum only in areas that the Bangsamoro people actually occupy.

He mentioned the provinces of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Muslim-dominated towns in Mindanao like Lanao del Norte, part of the Zamboanga Peninsula, Palawan, Sarangani, Sultan Kudarat and North Cotabato.

Organizers also reported that thousands of Bangsamoro people from other parts of Mindanao were accosted by government soldiers while on their way to the assembly here. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, Charlie C. Señase and Allan A. Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Erratum

IN yesterday's story (page A12) titled "Independence seen part of Muslim meet agenda," the name of Prof. Abhoud Syed Mansur Lingga was inadvertedly written as "Prof. Abu Sayyaf Mansur-Lingga." We apologize for the error.—Ed.

An advisory to all SSS members

Much has been said over the past several weeks about your Social Security System, and the time has come for us to break the silence and lay down the facts:

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INQUIRER Mindanao
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor

'Holy warriors' on tribal land

By Joey R.B. Lozano
Mati, Davao Oriental

ON May 27, some P2.4-million worth of logs were discovered by members of a fact-finding mission inside an industrial forest plantation project in Mati, Davao Oriental.

Company guards had prevented them the day before from entering the place in order to verify residents' allegations of massive illegal logging.

Guided by armed tribal members who call themselves "*Alimaong*" or holy warriors, the mission, led by the church-based Interfaith Movement for Peace, Empowerment and Development (Impede) found the logs scattered in the log deck and log landings of Asia Pulp and Paper Integrated Mills Inc. (Appimi).

"ALIMAONG" or tribal "holy warriors" rest on their latest discovery of illegally cut logs. JOEY LOZANO

Appimi holds an Industrial Forest Plantation Management Agreement (Ifma), covering 3,888 hectares of land spread in Sitios Magum, Kasinikan, Katmonan and Wagon of Mati's Barangay Macambol.

The *Alimaong* pointed to other areas where logs, many of which Impede foresters Edgar Solis and Marlito Labad say are undersized, have yet to be retrieved.

Film footage taken by advocates of Witness, a program of the New York-based Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, also show that hundreds of smaller residual trees had been cut or uprooted. The damage was done during the felling and bucking operations, the foresters said.

Witness arms human rights advocates with cameras for use in documenting abuses.

In March, a local paper reported Appimi's alleged illegal logging with the connivance of officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The allegation led to the suspension of the company's operations.

Clarence Baguilat, DENR executive director for Southern Mindanao, admitted that he is now under investigation for the "aborted P132.3-million illegal logging" by Appimi inside a 240-hectare "thickly forested area."

He, however, maintained that only a total of 334 *tanguile* logs, worth P2,411,500 at a market value of P5,300 per cubic meter, were cut. Pending the outcome of the investigation, he refrained from saying whether the logs were cut legally or illegally.

Foresters Solis and Labad estimated the value of the logs at nearly P9 million, based on their recent visit to the area.

The alleged massive cutting of forest trees had alarmed residents who claimed they were never consulted when Appimi applied for an environmental compliance certificate (ECC). The company's environmental impact statement (EIS) claims that a public consultation was held in Macambol on Nov. 27 last year.

Romeo Caasi, president of the Federation of Purok Chairpersons, denied that a public consultation was held. What was held, he said, was a meeting among selected barangay officials, DENR representatives and company personnel.

The activity was officially reported as a "Scooping (sic) report" by Appimi in its EIS.

Other subsequent consultations, which were promised by Environment and Natural Resources Office representative (Enro) Bert Pajo, did not materialize.

'Dishonesty and arrogance'

The company's claim that a "public consultation" was held and which served as a basis for the DENR's issuance of an ECC is plain dishonesty, the residents argued.

They belied assertions by Appimi president Henry Wee that the company had been able to develop more than 400 hectares of open denuded brushland since it got its Ifma on March 17, 1992.

There never was any development, they said. Mission members were led to an area where many *Gmelina arborea* species never grew taller than 10 feet since they were planted in 1995.

"They've cut trees, instead," Caasi alleged, "and destroyed the buffer zone for the Pujada Bay, the source of livelihood for local fisherfolk."

Fr. Medardo Salomea, the local parish priest; said some 1,000 families resided in the four sitios covered by the Ifma. About 60 percent of them depend on fishing and the rest are engaged in small-scale farming.

The priest and mission members branded as "arrogance" the company's refusal to allow them entry into the area on May 26. The local government had earlier approved the request of Bishop Patricio Alo of the Diocese of Mati, for mission members to visit the area.

Ifma documents also did not indicate any prohibition to the entry of people for visits within the project site.

Ernito Sagaral, a local DENR representative who posted himself near the company outpost manned by two security guards, went with the latter's argument of no entry unless "there is an order from the management."

"Are they hiding something? Is the company more powerful now than the local government unit?" Father Salomea asked. "He (Sagaral) could have insisted our entry as part of the monitoring activity allowed by law, but did not," the priest added.

The following morning, mission members discovered that the road leading to the log landings and log deck had been bulldozed to prevent vehicular entry.

The provincial environment and natural resources office recently revealed that Henry Wee had already requested in writing for a permit to haul the logs. This, even as the investigation has yet to be concluded.

The residents are now alarmed that Appimi "might spirit the logs out of the area via the sea" should the request not be granted.

"Mr. Wee will be in hot water if he does," Director Baguilat countered. "There is an inventory for counterchecking."

Social justice

"Even if we assume that Appimi had cut the logs within the legal boundaries, the very nature of the Ifma runs counter to the essence of the Church's mission to promote social justice," Salomea argued.

As an example, he pointed out the company's lease agreement for 3,888 hectares of land, which requires no rental for the first five years, 50 centavos per year per hectare for the 6th to 10th year, and P1 per hectare per year for the 11th to 25th year.

The agreement is renewable for another 25 years.

"It is hard to fathom the fact that for a measly sum, huge tracts of forest land had been entrusted to a company whose capacity to protect the natural resources or engage in reforestation projects has yet to be proven," the priest said.

"And why risk the nearby populace who barely can own land and whose lives and livelihood are now at risk because of the DENR's incapacity to monitor and implement to the letter the provisions of Ifma projects?" he asked.

The INQUIRER tried to reach Wee at his office twice. A man, who introduced himself as janitor Juanito Paras and who spoke English well, said Wee was "out of town."

Nita Combis, a clerk, also said the same when the INQUIRER made a second call. She denied that a Juanito Paras was employed in the company.

In 1977, Mindanao accounted for about 75 percent or 367,873 hectares of the total area contracted for industrial forest plantation programs. These are covered by 92 Ifma or ITPLAs (Industrial Tree Plantation Program Lease Agreements).

Southern Mindanao accounts for 38 Ifmas, covering some 75,000 hectares of land.

The figure is relatively the same today given the new approvals and cancellations, Baguilat said.

The Ifma basically calls for the planting of timber and non-timber products to supply the requirements of existing and proposed forest-based and other related industries, both locally and abroad. It also allows the project holder to log within certain specified limits.

But poor monitoring leads to questionable and unrestrained cutting, as demonstrated in the case of Appimi, Impede executive director Lilia Paglinawan said.

That increases the rate of deforestation instead, she added.

In a number of cases in Mindanao, tribal members had been displaced by Ifma projects, or even killed by company guards when they resisted the entry of forest plantation projects.

Tropical timber plantations now cover some 81 million hectares of land, Marcus Dolchester of the World Rainforest organization in London recently wrote. This is to meet the rising demand for paper and pulp.

To service the projected demand of 3 billion cu m. of industrial roundwood per year, up to half of the world's remaining forests will be subjected to logging at an intensity of 2 cu.m. per hectare per year, he added.

Thus, he asked: If sustainability is the objective shouldn't production targets be derived from the real potential of forest ecosystems to sustainably yield timber rather than on consumer demand projections?

'Desecrated altar'

The national forest policy, from which the Ifma takes off, continues to be biased in favor of commercial use and exploitation, Antonio G.M. LaVina had observed when he was then director of the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center. He later served as DENR undersecretary for legal affairs under the Ramos administration and is now with the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C.

"It falls short of the constitutional demand of social justice," he had said, "at least with the vested rights of indigenous communities."

"The forest (that Appimi now occupies) is ours. It is where we hunt and get our medicines. Why are we prevented from getting in?" Victor Aying Jr., supreme datu of the *Alimaong* confederation asked when he, together with mission members, were barred entry into the forest.

Bienvenido Villafuerte, another datu, further claimed that the company had cut and burned parts of the buffer zone for the sea. It has contributed to the destruction of breeding areas for fish.

Both lamented the cutting of trees, which, they said, were part of their sacred grounds. They have desecrated our altar, they said, as they demanded that the government immediately cancel the Ifma issued to Appimi.

"The area (where the logs were harvested) have never been logged before, contrary to the DENR's claim," the warriors maintained.

"We could only pray that we could continue protesting peacefully. But if the government fails to heed our demand, and if the company uses force against us in pursuing the project, then we the soldiers of the tribe, will use all our strength to defend our territory," warrior leader Aying Jr. warned.

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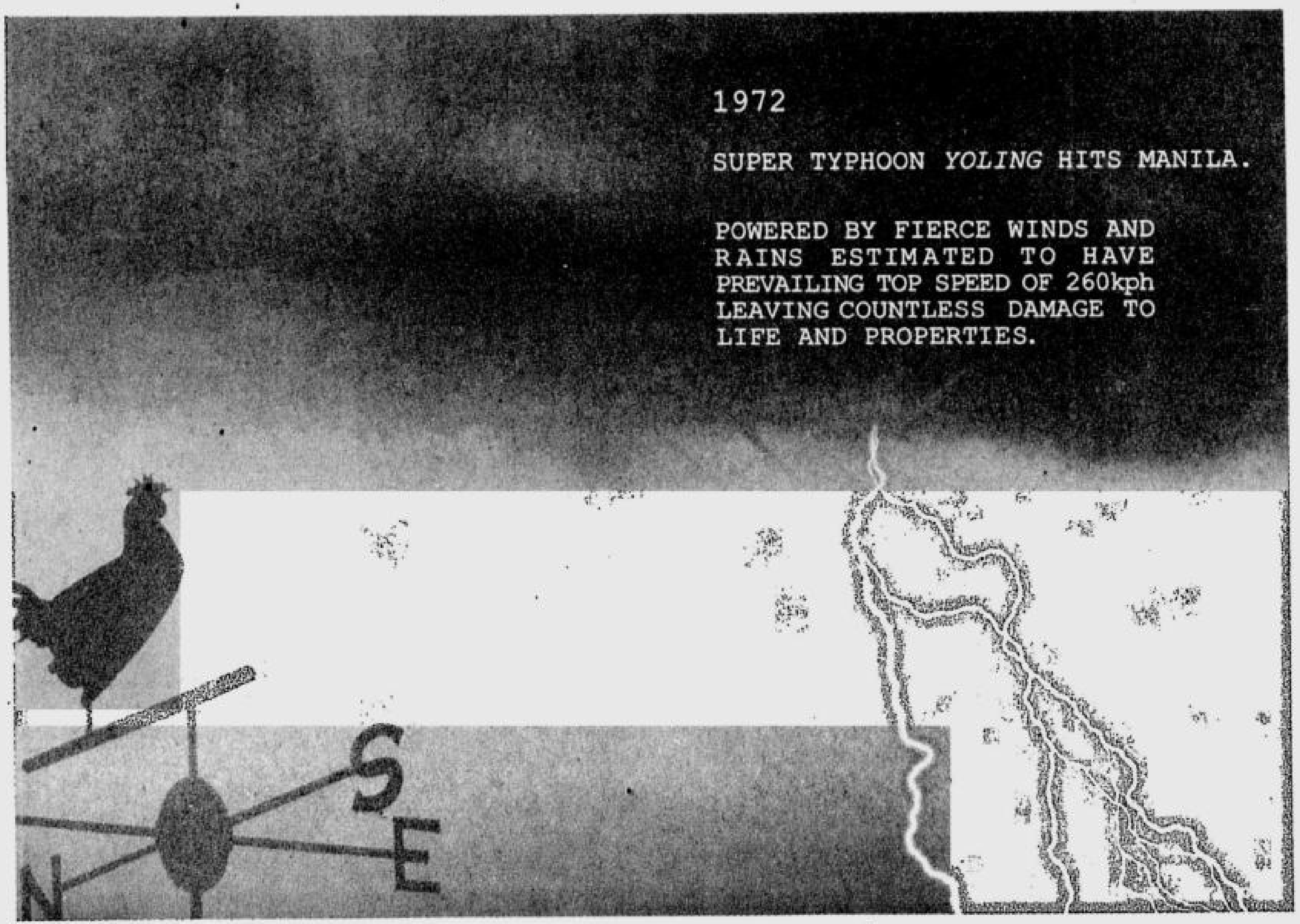

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Nepal in shock after royal massacre

(From page A1)

ment of Maoist rebels seeking to overthrow the monarchy.

"This is the most unfortunate and shocking event," he said.

Prince Gyanendra, a conservationist, arrived in the capital by car Saturday afternoon from the jungle area of Chitwan.

The slaughter at Narayanhiti Royal Palace is believed to have been the worst mass murder of royals since the Romanovs were slain on the order of Vladimir Lenin in 1918 during the Russian civil war.

The military official said the shooting was caused by a dispute over the marriage of the prince because his mother, the queen, reportedly objected to his choice of bride.

The royal family had gathered Friday night for dinner to discuss the wedding of Prince Dipendra. Sources close to the family said that the prince wished to marry the daughter of a former government minister who is a member of the aristocratic Rana family, which ruled Nepal until 1951.

The crown prince, educated at Britain's Eton College, was heir to the throne.

The incident occurred around 10:40 p.m. local time Friday (12:55 a.m. Saturday in Manila).

Katmandu, the capital of 1.5 million, woke up Saturday to the news of the slayings. Thousands of people began walking toward the royal palace in the heart of the city.

Armed police in riot gear moved in around the perimeters of the iron walls that surround the modern, concrete Narayanhiti palace to push back the crowds.

The main street leading to the palace was closed as people in the capital began gathering at every corner to share the news.

"This is unbelievable . . . one day you hear that the crown prince is getting married soon and the next day he goes on to a shooting rampage and kills everyone in the family," said Shreeram Shrestha, who had rushed to the palace after hearing the news.

"Shocking is an understatement, we have been orphaned by this loss," said Janardan Sharma, a vegetable vendor who left his morning rounds to rush to the palace.

The office of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan released a statement, expressing sadness over the incident.

"The secretary general extends his heartfelt condolences to the people of Nepal and calls for calm and stability," it said.

King Birendra became the constitutional monarch after he was stripped of power in 1990 through a popular people's movement. He remained a figurehead much like the queen of England, appearing in ceremonies and addressing the Parliament once a year.

The royal family is revered in Nepal. Some believe that the king is the reincarnation of the Hindu god, Vishnu.

The royal couple were married in February 1970. Their first child, Dipendra, was born on June 27, 1971. King Birendra was crowned to the throne on Jan 31, 1972.

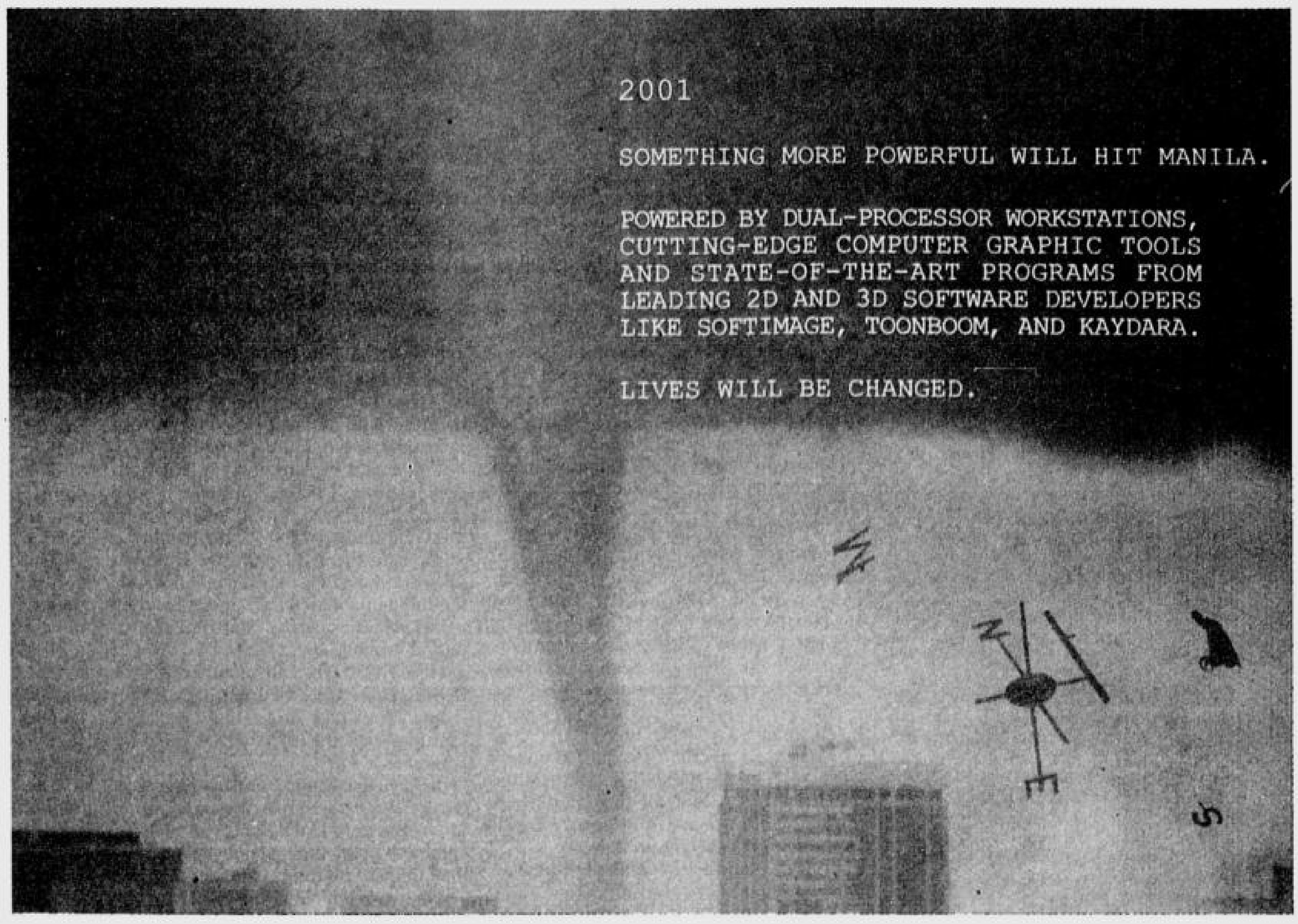
The kingdom of Nepal, which is 90 percent Hindu, is located in South Asia, squeezed between China and India.

Of the nearly 22 million population in Nepal, about 90 percent are Hindu and 5 percent Buddhist. Home to the world's tallest peak, Mt. Everest, Nepal is one of the world's poorest countries, with a per capita income of only $213.

The incident comes at a time when this Himalayan state is going through major political instability. Opposition parties have been demanding Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala's resignation for the government's alleged role in a bribery scandal and for not better quelling a Maoist insurgency.

The country was shut down for three days earlier this week by the opposition parties to press for the resignation. Parliament was stalled the entire winter session earlier this year and street protests have been held regularly.

Many lawmakers within his Nepali Congress have also refused to rally behind Koirala. *AP*



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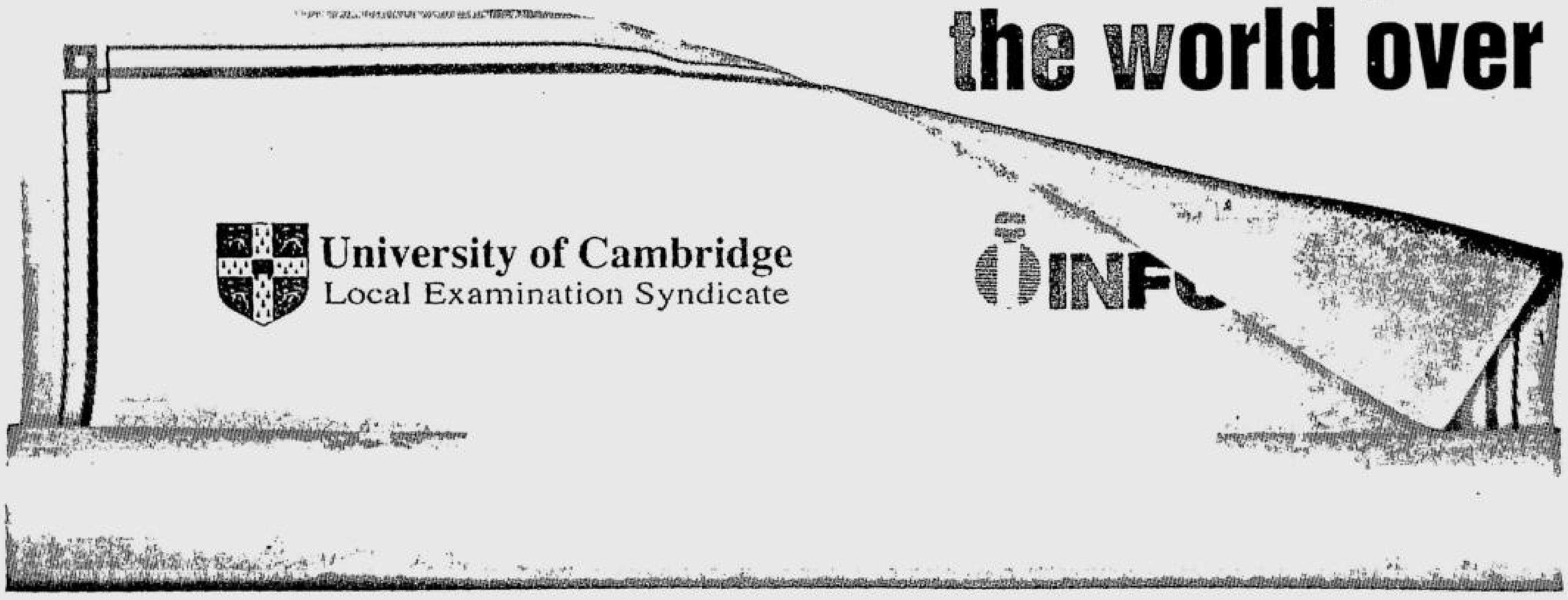

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Fr. Nacorda: Still another brush with Abu

BY THE PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

THIS is not the first time that Fr. Cirilo Nacorda has come face to face with the Abu Sayyaf and their terror tactics.

Seven years ago, he was captured by the Basilan Abu Sayyaf, led by Barahama Sali, and was held for 61 days.

And even before he was taken hostage yesterday at the St. Peter's Church in Lamitan, Nacorda was the object of a failed kidnap attempt by the extremists in 1995, which was foiled after a four-hour running gunbattle between government troops and the attacking Abu Sayyaf.

On June 8, 1994, the Abu Sayyaf stopped a passenger bus and two jeepneys along the highway in Barangay Lumbang, Isabela, Basilan.

Nacorda, who was then parish priest of Matarling, a village of Isabela, was among 74 people seized by the bandits.

Of the 74 hostages, one escaped, 15 were massacred, and 57 others were freed in two batches, reportedly after the payment of a P300,000 ransom.

Government negotiators later claimed that Nacorda had been released without a ransom being paid, reportedly on orders issued by Sali as he lay dying from wounds suffered during a clash with government soldiers.

One radio report said Nacorda himself said the last prayers for his captor, although the priest would not confirm the reports about Sali's death nor talk about the encounter where the bandit leader was supposed to have fallen.

After his release, the priest related how his kidnappers tried to convert him to Islam without success.

He said he talked with Sali many times and found him to be "a good person who was only used by some group."

The second kidnap attempt on Nacorda occurred during the visit here of Pope John Paul II in 1995.

Thirty-three Abu Sayyaf bandits and about a dozen troopers were killed in the battle to thwart the kidnapping.

But Nacorda and other priests and nuns serving in seven parishes of Basilan refused to leave the province despite the threat to their lives.

Indeed, when fleeing Abu Sayyaf bandits attacked and took over the St. Peter's Church in Lamitan yesterday, they ended up with another hostage—Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, the parish priest.

'We'll wipe them out'

(From page A1)

the fighting, and scores of civilians were wounded.

The bandits later withdrew from the church and regrouped at the nearby hospital, which government forces eventually surrounded.

Agence France Presse quoted AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan as saying that negotiations were underway to resolve the standoff but that the government was firm in its no-ransom policy.

"The negotiations and military action go hand in hand . . . These are not two separate actions," Adan said.

He said the President had dispatched an emissary, whom he declined to identify.

Throngs of Lamitan residents, crouching low to avoid sniper fire, clogged the roads leading out of the town, prompting Mayor Inocente Ramos to appeal to them to stay in their homes. Almost all business establishments in the town had been shut down.

Civilians who were able to escape from the hospital claimed to have seen Sabaya among the bandits.

Agence France Presse quoted one of the rescued hostages as saying over RGMA radio station that the three American hostages were among those being held at the hospital.

"We could identify them because of their lighter skin," the ex-hostage said.

Three of the injured civilians were taken by ferry to the Zamboanga City Medical Center. They were identified as Adi Adali, 52, who was shot in the chest; Lolita Dalfati, 42, who suffered a miscarriage; and municipal councilor Fernando Baet, a retired executive officer of the 103rd Infantry Brigade based in Isabela town.

New hostages

In Manila, Adan told reporters that General Headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo had yet to identify those being held by the bandits in the hospital.

Reports from a local radio station in Basilan named some of them as Dr. Daniel Cowly, resident physician at the hospital; Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, parish priest of St. Peter's Church; Nacorda's assistant Fr. Rene Enriquez; and Sisters Sofia, Sonia and Leonarda, all Dominican nuns.

"This morning, around 1 a.m., we received a report that 50-60 bandits descended on the town of Lamitan, looking for medicines and doctors, when our troops caught up with them," Adan said.

He said that heavy fighting was continuing between government forces and the bandits at noon.

"Until now there is fighting going on," Adan said, adding that according to sketchy reports, the troops were meeting with sniper fire from rooftops near the church and the hospital.

Adan said two Sikorsky attack helicopters provided air cover to the ground troops in their attempt to take the hospital and the church from the bandits.

He said the military lost a Hummer all-terrain vehicle and an amphibious landing tank, which the bandits blew up using recoilless rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

Army Rangers and members of the PNP Special Action Forces have established blockades in strategic areas of Lamitan to ward off Abu Sayyaf reinforcements.

Sabaya told Radio Mindanao Network (RMN) that he and his cohorts would blow up the hospital and the church, along with both old and new hostages, if the military continued its assault.

He said an Abu Sayyaf "suicide squad"' was now in control of the two buildings.

"Now if the military will not stop the operation, we might be forced to execute our hostages," he said as the sound of gunfire reverberated in the background.

Adan warned that tandem negotiations and military operations could be a drawn-out process.

"In operations like this, the main consideration is the safe deliverance of the hostages. It will be a waiting game. The pressure has to be maintained so that the hostages will be released," he said.

Adan also said the bandits' aim now "is to escape with the hostages."

"We don't think they will invade any other place," he said.

Dragnet

The President said the Abu Sayyaf was already desperate and had no means to escape the military-police dragnet.

She said the bandits were trying mightily to fight back but that the government was bent on continuing the offensive until all the hostages had been freed.

But she expressed sadness that the hostage crisis had brought about the death of five soldiers and members of the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units.

She extended her condolences to the families of those killed, saying the country acknowledged and was grateful for their loved ones' heroism.

The President thanked the military and police who were still engaged in the offensive, saying in Filipino: "Even now, I can see the victory of our military operation against the terrorists."

She also thanked the residents of Basilan and Cagayan de Tawi-Tawi for helping the government, and the media for cooperating with and understanding the government's news-blackout policy.

She reiterated that the news blackout on the search and rescue operations was necessary to spring a surprise on the Abu Sayyaf.

Fighting between government troops and the Abu Sayyaf first erupted early Friday in Tuburan, Basilan, where the bandits fled after the raid on Dos Palmas.

The bandits escaped to Lamitan before dawn yesterday.

Condemnation

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines condemned the bandits' attack on St. Peter's Church, saying the desecration of a place of worship only showed the terrorist character of the Abu Sayyaf.

"The CBCP stand is that the Abu Sayyaf should be brought to justice, but within the bounds of the law," said Msgr. Hernando Coronel, CBCP media director.

In his Saturday program over RMN, Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. urged the government to match the aggressive military operations in Basilan with serious efforts to help the civilians affected.

"We must do everything to help our civilian population to lessen the impact of the fire-fighting," he said.

Pimentel said the concerned residents in Lamitan should be immediately evacuated and, once in temporary shelters, provided adequate food and medication to ward off an epidemic.

He said he had wanted to take up the matter with officials of the defense, social welfare and health departments, as well as of the National Food Authority, but that when he tried to phone them, their numbers were busy or there was no answer.

Pimentel also called on the civilians in Basilan to stay away from the areas of fighting.

"You can't be kibitzers in this fight. This is not a movie. You may only end up as casualties," he said in Filipino.

He asked local officials not to renege on their duty to help the civilians, and warned that the Abu Sayyaf might take more "human shields."

The Senate President chided the local military and police for "loopholes in their organizational setup" that, he said, led to the failure to stop the attack in Lamitan despite earlier intelligence reports.

He said he would spare them from investigation in the meantime, "but later on, we have to look at these problems so that they will not be repeated."

"We should find out where they failed," he said.

Pimentel surmised that part of the problem could be the lack of state-of-the-art military equipment, and pointed out that the US government had offered to help provide radar and night-vision gear.

"We can accept this (help) not only because of (the US-RP) Visiting Forces Agreement, but also because the fight against terrorism is international. We cannot do it on our own. We need the help of other countries," he said. ***With reports from Armand N. Nocum, Norman Bordadora, Inquirer wires***

Property developer among 4 rescued

(From page A1)

mined to put an end to a scourge that two former presidents could not vanquish," he said.

When they arrived in Manila last night on a Philippine Airlines flight from Zamboanga, a haggard-looking Romero and the young Recio, who was being carried in the arms of another man, appeared briefly at the end of an airline tube leading to a staircase to the airport tarmac.

As Romero descended the staircase, two men met him and hugged him. Reporters did not catch sight of Santos.

Armed Forces spokesperson Brig. Gen. Ediberto Adan insisted at an earlier news conference that the escaped captives should be regarded as "rescued" because "force was applied by soldiers, causing their guards to lose control."

Romero himself repeatedly referred to his "rescue" by the military in his statement.

The former hostages were among the 17 Filipinos and three Americans kidnapped by the Abu Sayyaf from the Dos Palmas resort on Honda Bay in Palawan exactly a week ago.

Officials said Romero, Santos and Recio fled during the military strike on kidnappers who had holed themselves up inside one of two Basilan hospitals, the Jose Maria Torres Memorial Hospital in Lamitan town.

Adan said the three were weak but otherwise unharmed.

Television footage from Zamboanga later in the day showed Santos and Romero, talking on cellular phones, reassuring their families that they were fine. Romero chairs R-II Builders, the contractor for the Smokey Mountain rehabilitation project, and briefly owned the Manila Times in 1999.

Cue to escape

For his part, Morales, the escaped security guard, told local radio that he and a fellow captive guard bolted on Friday night after the Abu Sayyaf threatened to start executing their hostages.

Morales, the first of the hostages recovered by the military, said in an interview with RGMA radio station in Zamboanga City that he and the other guard, Armando Bayona, were separated from the other 18 hostages after they arrived in Basilan.

On Friday, Abu Sayyaf spokesman Abu Sabaya said in a radio interview that two of the hostages had been wounded in a battle with the military and that the kidnappers were considering executing the others.

Morales said he and Bayona took this as their cue to try to escape, and he managed to break away from his captors and flee in the darkness. He was wounded in the ear after being slashed by the kidnappers.

He said he did not know what happened to Bayona or the other 18 captives.

Home

The military debriefed all four escaped hostages for details on the activities of the Abu Sayyaf. The four were taken separately from Basilan via boat and chopper to nearby Zamboanga City.

Romero, Santos and Recio were flown to Manila, while Morales was kept confined at the Camp Navarro Southcom hospital in Zamboanga.

The military barred newsmen from interviewing or taking pictures of the freed hostages.

Romero, Santos and Recio were brought to meet the President at the Forbes Park residence of her late father, President Diosdado Macapagal, as soon as they arrived in Manila around 7:45 last night.

Palace officials barred reporters from covering the Forbes Park event, limiting the coverage to a photo opportunity.

Adan told reporters at the airport that the three hostages would be brought to an undisclosed military camp for further debriefing after meeting Ms Macapagal.

Not in Sulu?

Many of the other captives seized from the Palawan resort, including three Americans, were taken inside the Lamitan hospital occupied by the Abu Sayyaf, officials said.

Adan said most of the hostages appeared to be unharmed although he said he assumed they were haggard and hungry because they had been walking for days since their abduction last Sunday.

He said all the Palawan resort hostages were believed to be held in Basilan and that half of them had not been sent to the nearby islands of Sulu, as the Abu Sayyaf had claimed.

He also said there was no evidence that two of the hostages had been wounded as Abu Sabaya had claimed.

One of the captives had earlier appealed on local radio for an end to the military assault, saying that the hostages' lives were in danger.

"Please tell the government not to use the military to solve this problem," hostage Teresa Ganzon had told the local radio station.

Annihilate

Malacañang said the government would continue its all-out war on the Abu Sayyaf and no-ransom policy.

"The rescue of the four hostages . . . and the initial success of the Armed Forces validate President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's policy (of waging) an uncompromising all-out war against the Abu terrorists and the no-ransom policy that strengthens that policy," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said in a statement.

"We will pursue these policies until we annihilate the Abu Sayyaf terrorists, capture them or force them to surrender," Tiglao added.

He said the government's bounty offer of a total of P100 million for known Abu Sayyaf leaders and members, strengthened the backbone of the government's campaign against the bandits.

Tiglao praised the military and the Philippine National Police, and thanked the people of Basilan and Sulu for their "splendid cooperation" and for "choosing to support the government and the people against the marauding Abu terrorists."

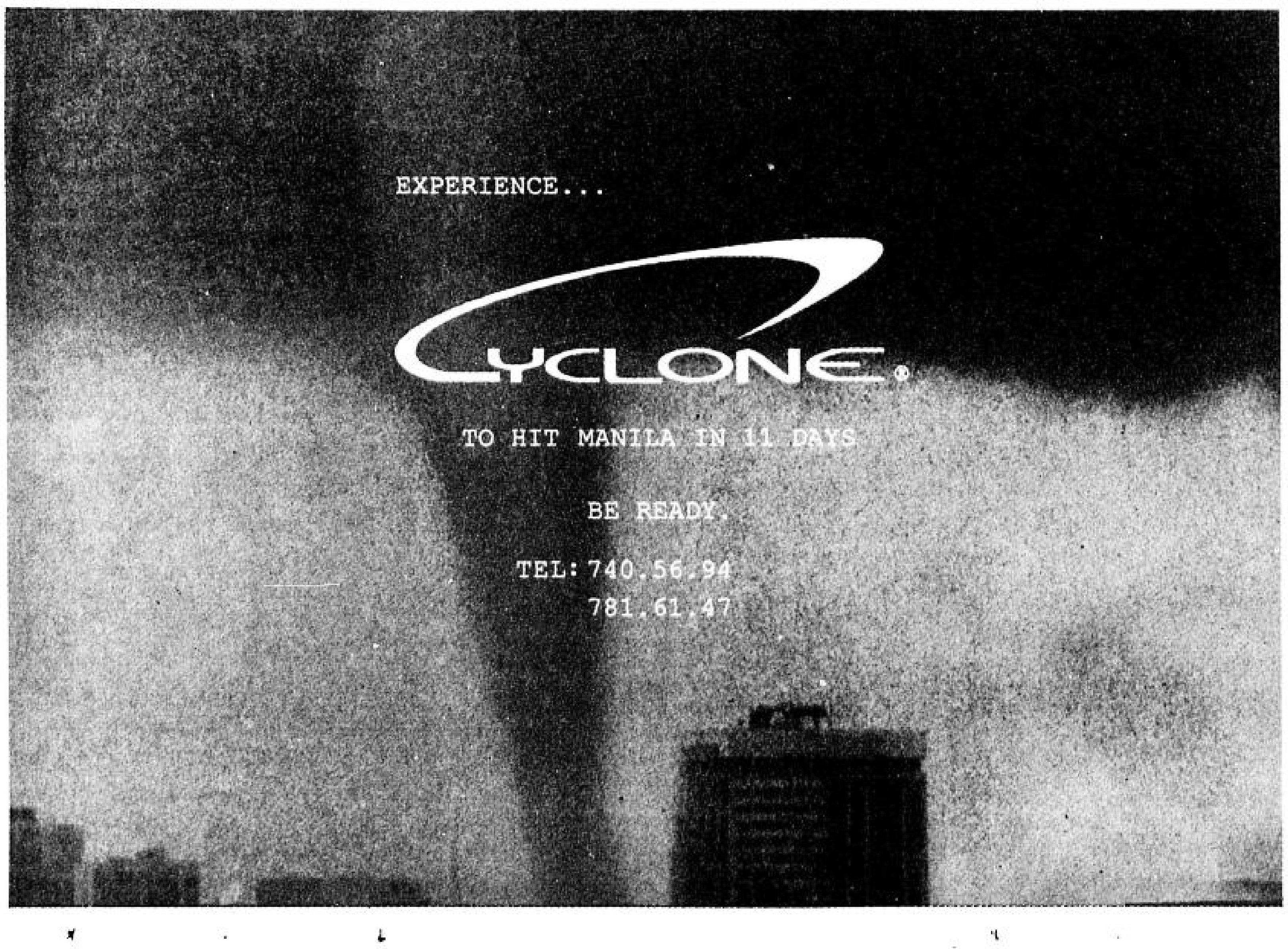
He also thanked the media for "cooperating with government for denying the Abu Sayyaf free publicity and understanding the restrictions on reporting troop movements."

The President has imposed a news blackout on the government's operations against the kidnappers.

In Davao City, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon hailed the rescue, saying an early resolution of the crisis would help the badly hit tourism industry.

"The government has the political will and the strength. It has what it takes," Gordon said.

In Manila, the Dos Palmas resort management said in a statement that it was closing the Palawan resort from June 4-14 to concentrate on "helping the families (of the hostages) and . . . to give the staff a much-needed break." With reports from Reuters, AFP; Joel B. Escovilla and Ayan C. Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau



First Family . . .

(From page A1)

wide area of Metro Manila starting Friday night.

But unlike most of the 2.9 million Metro Manila residents who had to contend with whatever water they were able to save, President Macapagal-Arroyo and her family were able to escape the inconvenience of a waterless Malacañang by staying at the Manila Hotel.

The President, First Gentleman Miguel Arroyo and their children checked into the country's premier hotel on Friday night, the first night when taps went dry in nearly 65 percent of the service area of Maynilad Water Services Inc.

Maynilad, which supplies water to 4.5 million clients in the metropolis' West Zone, was upgrading its pipeline network. Manila Water, the other water concessionaire, was also upgrading its pipes.

Press Undersecretary Roberto Capco confirmed that the First Family checked into the Manila Hotel. He said Ms Macapagal and her family would stay there for the three-day duration of the water service interruption.

No aircon, too

Capco said that aside from the lack of water, the Palace also had no air-conditioning.

"They checked in at the Manila Hotel because of the water cut-off. And then the centralized air-conditioning in the Palace bogged down. So it was very inconvenient specially when she had to run the business of government," Capco said.

He said the Malacañang engineering office had yet to explain why the air-conditioning was not working.

The First Family was expected to have stayed at the highly secured Presidential Suite or the MacArthur Suite, which is reserved for visiting heads of state.

As of yesterday afternoon, not a single fire truck had come to Malacañang to supply water to the main Palace and the offices in the Kalayaan Hall, Mabini Hall and New Executive Building.

MBA BLASTS OFF

Gems, Slashers collide in Bacolod

GAMES TODAY
San Juan Gym—3:00 p.m.—Batangas vs San Juan
USLS Bacolod—5:30 p.m.—Cebu vs Negros

By Roy Luarca

BACOLOD CITY—Fans of both the Negros Slashers and the Cebuana Lhuillier Gems insist their respective team is the strongest in the Southern Conference of the Metropolitan Basketball Association. Their claims have solid bases.

The Slashers are laden with firepower, while the Gems are solid in all positions.

At 5:30 p.m. today, the Slashers and the Gems will test each other's mettle in the second game of the First Phase inaugurals at the University of St. La Salle Coliseum here.

San Juan tackles Batangas in another game starting at 3 p.m. at the San Juan gym.

The Gems, however, may not be in full force as team skipper Max Delantes suffered a left knee injury while veteran acquisition Al Solis is hobbled by a stretched calf muscle.

Matt Mitchell, the league's leading scorer (24.65) and rebounder (14.2) per game last year, Peter Naron and national players Stephen Padilla and Homer Se will banner coach Tonichi Yturri's charges.

"I'm hoping that my wards can play up to their potential," said Yturri. "We're complete this year in the sense that the team has young legs as well as talent and experience."

Negros coach Robert Sison is aware that the Slashers lack a legit center, but is confident they can compensate with their speed, hustle and fully loaded artillery.

Aside from 1999 MVP John Ferriols and fellow national Ruben de la Rosa, Negros can turn to Johnedel Cardel, Cid White and acquisitions Jomar Tierra and Patrick Benedicto for the points.

White, Ferriols and Reynel Hugnatan, all of whom stand 6-4, Egay Ignacio (6-5) and Leo Bat-og (6-3) will battle it out with the Gems' big men.

"We feel that we have a good chance more than ever," said Sison, who steered the Slashers to the conference crown and the national finals last year.

The Andok's San Juan Knights and the LBC Batangas Blades tangle in the 3 p.m. opener at the San Juan Gym.

Former Manila stars Romel Adducul, Alex Compton and Peter Martin have joined Eddie Laure, Stephen Antonio and Tonyboy Espinosa in the Blades' fold, but whether they have jelled remains to be seen.

In contrast, the defending champion Knights are virtually intact.

Except for man-mountain Bonel Balingit, all the Knights, led by national players Chris Calaguio, Omanzie Rodriguez and Chito Victolero, have returned.

Taking over the 6-foot-9 Balingit's slot is Gilbert Castillo, who's a better all-around player but is five inches shorter, leaving the 6-8 Rafi Reavis and the 6-6 Rodriguez to patrol the middle.

Others expected to deliver for coach Philip Cezar are high flyer Bruce Dacia, Danny Capobres and Randy Alcantara.

Completing the eight-team field are the FedEx Laguna Lakers, the Davao Eagles, the Socsargen Marlins and the Nueva Ecija Patriots.

A one-hour inaugural ceremony featuring fiesta-like celebrations in the teams' respective arenas will precede the games to be shown live over PTV 4.

Azinger leads; Tiger 2 down

DUBLIN, Ohio—Paul Azinger grabbed the midway lead in the Memorial with five straight birdies on the back nine for a 67 to move a shot ahead of Vijay Singh.

Perhaps more importantly, Tiger Woods was just two shots back after a second round 69 that he finished in cold and near darkness. Woods was tied with first round co-leader Chris Smith and Sergio Garcia at 7 under.

He was also pleased that after 5-1/2 sometimes uncomfortable hours on the course and the possibility of more rain ahead that he was still close.

"I needed to put myself into a position where I didn't have too many shots to make up if it is a 54-hole event," Woods said.

Azinger's 67 put him at 9 under through two rounds in the soggy Memorial, where a morning downpour suspended play for two hours and players were allowed to lift, clean and place their balls. A few players were unable to finish and will have to return early Saturday to complete their rounds.

Azinger, who beat cancer discovered the year after he won here in 1993, had a bigger task in this year's tournaments than his other competitors. He gave the speech on Wednesday when the tournament made the late golfer Payne Stewart its annual honoree.

No sooner had Azinger completed a 31 on the back nine, though, than he rejected suggestions that somehow this was his tournament to win because of his relationship with Stewart, who died in a 1999 plane accident.

"I'm not into all that mystical stuff," he said.

Azinger gave the tribute to his late friend in an emotional ceremony Wednesday behind the same 18th green where he blasted out and into the cup to beat Stewart in his last win here.

He had played poorly in a practice round earlier in the day while thinking of his speech. After giving it, though, he switched into golf clothes and went to the practice range feeling renewed.

"It was after I gave that talk that I was able to finally gear in and focus," Azinger said. *AP*

AP

WOODS hits his second shot on the par-4 9th hole.

Delasin bounces back; Webb up

DOROTHY Delasin recovered with an even-par 70 and was almost certain to make the cut in the rain-delayed second round of the US Women's Open golf championship at the Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Club in Southern Pines, North Carolina.

Delasin knocked in four birdies on the seven greens she was able to hit on a stormy day when defending champion Karrie Webb made her move by setting a course record five-under 65 that gave the Aussie star the provisional lead at 135.

Delasin had a 145 aggregate, well within the projected cut of seven over par.

Jenny Rosales, needing a big charge after starting out with a 77 on Thursday, was not able to tee-off like one of the first round leaders Cindy Figg-Currier. Cindy's co-leader, AJ Eathorne, was even after four holes. *Jong Arcano*

Teary Roddick quits

PARIS—Andy Roddick tumbled across the court in the third set and pulled a muscle Friday, forcing the rising star to quit against Lleyton Hewitt and exit the French Open.

Roddick limped off court with tears in his eyes, trailing the sixth-seeded Australian 6-7 (6), 6-4, 2-2, 40-15 in the third-round match.

"I pulled it the last match, and I pulled it again back there," he said after the jarring end to his second Grand Slam tournament.

Hewitt will next face Argentina's Guillermo Canas, who earlier beat 11th-seeded Tim Henman in five sets. Canas fell to his knees and shook his fists after the 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 victory.

No. 15 Jelena Dokic was a surprise casualty in the women's field, losing 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 to Hungarian qualifier Petra Mandula, ranked 131st.

The 18-year-old Yugoslav had lost only three games before the match and was considered one of the top contenders in the bottom half of the draw. She came to Roland Garros fresh from winning her first title, the Italian Open, where she beat Amelie Mauresmo in the final.

Titleholder Gustavo Kuerten got through a tough third-round match against Morocco's Karim Alami, winning 6-3, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-2. Kuerten, who also won the French in 1997, is the favorite to take the title. *AP*

Murakami, Agojo head Jungolf team

ARTEMIO Murakami and Jayvie Agojo completed their summer circuit campaign unbeaten by posting runaway victories in the Jungolf Tournament of Champions recently at the Tat Filipinas course in San Pedro, Laguna.

Murakami ruled the boys Class A while Agojo romped off with the girls Class B to emerge as the top point earners in the 10-leg summer tour sponsored by Northwest Airlines—the official carrier.

Northwest will be flying the 20 players who qualified for the San Diego trip as well as the delegation to the Optimist International in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Laurence Negrido (boys Class B), Ersa Arriola (girls Class A), Tonton Asistio (boys Class C), Geleen Handog (girls Class C), John Kier Abdon (boys Class D), Debbie de Villa (girls Class D), Joshua Uy (boys Class E) and Angela de Villa (girls Class E) also topped their respective divisions to make the squad.

The other members of the team are Michael Bibat, Keenan Ugarte, Jerwin Lim, Katrina Gonzalez in Class A; Carl Santos Ocampo, Judson Eustaquio and Xandrea Dizon in Class B; IG Gutierrez, Jan Michael Yee and Erlaine Lumanog in Class C; Nico Sevilla and Maria Tala Exconde in Class D and Jobim Carlos and Dottie Ardina in Class E.

"It's a team with a lot of bright prospects. We feel that we'll be sending our very best to San Diego and Florida this year after getting the much-needed tournament exposure," said Merwin Mediana, president of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines.

Mediana will be heading the delegation together with Amalia Montecillo, chair of the Foundation.

Meanwhile, Mediana announced that the Foundation will hold a fund-raising tournament this month at the Riviera Golf and Country Club for its international commitments and other projects lined up for the year.

SPORTSWATCH

Suzuki hosts fun ride today

SUZUKI Philippines Inc. hosts for the fourth straight year the Vitara Fun Ride for Vitara and Grand Vitara owners and their families and friends today. The event will bring a convoy of more than 50 Vitaras and Grand Vitaras on a close to 300-kilometer drive from the Caltex-Julia Vargas station in Pasig City to the historic 1,300-foot high Dambana ng Kagitingan Shrine in Mt. Samat, Pilar, Bataan and on to the scenic Crown Peak Gardens at Subic, Zambales and back. Satoshi Hakamata, Suzuki vice president for automotive division, will flag off the participants. SBMA chair Felicito Payumo will welcome the participants during a fellowship program at the Summit Hall at Subic after which the participants may engage in swimming, bowling and jungle trekking. Caltex Vortex will be the official fuel sponsor while YKL film is the sponsor for the photo contest with the theme "My Family, My Vitara." The event is also supported by Outlast batteries and Clarion. Highlights of the fun ride will be aired on Auto Review hosted by Ron de los Reyes next Saturday, 6-6:30 p.m. on PTV 4.

Designer enters net semis

RTW designer Efren Ocampo barged into the men's singles 35 and under semifinals following a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Oliver Romero yesterday in the Philippine Seniors tennis tournament at the PCA Open indoor court. Ocampo will meet Dennis Profeta on June 6 to decide on who will play Royce Bunag in the championship round. Bunag defeated Profeta, 6-4, 6-3, to take the first finals slot. In the 45-and-under category, Peter King of the World Health Organization rallied past Ocampo, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, to reach the finals while Ernesto Sabandon downed Fraz Mamawal, 6-4, 6-2, and Arturo Fabian beat Angel Bautista, 4-6, 6-4, (7-0), to arrange a semifinal showdown in the 55-and-under class. In the doubles competition, PNP Supt. Col. Julio Augusto and Maj. Paul Villanueva outplayed businessmen Boy Santos and Angel Bautista, 7-5, 6-4, to enter the 45 and under semifinals.

Diving show set tomorrow

UNLIMITED Diving, the first and only weekly scuba diving show in the Philippines, returns tomorrow (Monday), 10-10:30 p.m. over TV 11. Featuring first class Philippine dive sites, exciting fish identification competitions, scuba trivia, dictionary, diving tips by scuba instructors, latest scuba gears, the unique show is hosted by Malou Maglutac Chongbian and sponsored by Verde Island Resort and Scuba World and produced by Mukha TV Sports.

Alex banners Sr tilt field

ALEX Montelibano will defend the crown against a horde of tough challengers in the Philippine Seniors Amateur Open golf championship set June 6-8 at Wack Wack Golf and Country Club west course.

Montelibano's chief rivals in the 54-hole event that will feature the country's top senior citizens 55 years and older are former champion Tom Culligan, Lucio Yan, Rico Javier, Tetu Santos, Caloy Coscolluela and Danny Pizarro.

Mizuno bossman Benny Gopez is throwing his full support behind the project as a major sponsor to spur the local senior golf movement. He is also the president of the Riviera Senior Golfers Association.

Joining Gopez in the sponsors' list are Rep. Gilberto Duavit, Gov. Casimiro Ynares of Rizal, Lucio Yan, DHL through its chairman Rod Feliciano and the seniors associations of Veterans, Aguinaldo, Valley, Founders, Luisita and Bonifacio.

Kart Plaza Manufacturing Inc. is donating a brand-new Yamaha cart for for the first hole-in-one on No. 3.

The Federation of Philippine Senior Golfers Inc. headed by SP Malbarosa is conducting the event in partnership with the National Golf Association of the Philippines.

Registration is now ongoing. Entry fee is P2,750 for the Open division while those playing the age-group bracket will pay P2,000 for 36 holes and P2,750 for three days of play.

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Disqualified

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

GRIZZLED trainer Ching Vicente is in a fighting mood again.

He sent us a letter, recalling a recent race at Santa Ana where the Quisumbing stable's Battle Hero was disqualified.

Here it is:

Dear Edwin,

MAY isang karerang di katanggap-tanggap sa bayang kareristas ang nangyari last May 20 *sa* Sta. Ana Park.

Sa Race 14 *ito kung saan unang tumawid sa* finish line *si* Battle Hero *na sakay ni* J.M. Manalo. *Nasegunda dito si* Air Express *na sakay ni* Jockey A. Novera Jr.

Sa nabanggit na karera kita ng lahat na walang foul riding *na na-*commit *si* Manalo *pero dinis-*qualify *ng* Board of Stewards *si* Battle Hero.

Sa frontal replay, *kitang kita na apat na beses kusang pumigil si* Novera *dahil sumisiksik sa likuran ni* Battle Hero. *Mali po yata ang naging desisyon at isa sa mga nalungkot dito si* Mr. Norberto Quisumbing Jr., *ang may-ari ni* Battle Hero.

Pero bakit iba naman yata ang naging desisyon noong manalo si My Indy *na sakay ni* J.L. Santos *kamakailan.*

Nanggaling sa labas si My Indy *at sabay sumara sa harapan ni* Something Best *na bandera at sakay ni* Pat Delima *sa may* 1,400-meter mark.

*Kitang-kitang sumalto at nagpa-*inquiry *agad. Pero pinanalo ng* Board of Stewards *si* My Indy *at sinuspende si* Santos ng eight) racing weeks. *Anong klaseng desisyon yun?*

Iyon namang kay Lovely Luigi *na kamakailan din, nakitang pagdating sa* 1,400 meters *ay sumara si* Lovely Luigi *na sakay ni* JM Ladiana *kay* Yoko Lady *at nagkasaltuhan pero walang* inquiry *at suspensyon.*

Tintawagan ko ng pansin sina Atty. Ramon Ereneta *at* Andy Maramag *ng* Philippine Racing Club *upang umaksyon dito nang maayos kasi parang bale wala sa kanila ang mga hinaing na ito.*

Pati si Chairman Katigbak *at ibang* board members *ng* Philracom *ay tila wala ring ginagawa sa mga kapalpakang ito.*

Muli kong pinaaabot sa Philracom, Philippine Racing Club *at maging sa* Manila Jockey Club *ang hamon ko na paharapin nyo ako sa isa sa inyong* meeting *upang mapatunayan ko sa inyo ang mga kamaliang ginagawa ng mga* stewards.

Inaasahan ko po na pagbibigyan nyo ang aking kahilingan.

Gumagalang,
Ching S. Vecente Jr.

***

Bornok Borbe's insistence produced one big sweepstakes winner for sportsman-businessman Putch Puyat recently.

"Pa-iiscratch ko na sana si Holy King pero pinilit ako ni Borbe at sabi nya 'boss itakbo natin at baka maka-tsamba' kaya pinatakbo ko na rin. Awa ng Diyos nanalo," said a beaming Puyat, whose Hazm colt won the May 20 sweepstakes race as a longshot.

'Race at the Fort II' unfolds today

THE Filipino-Chinese Amateur Athletic Federation, through its cycling committee chair Edward Lim, will hold its annual bike race at the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig City, Manila, today.

Dubbed "Race at the Fort II," the one-day event is a fitting follow-up to an earlier race held around the fort in 1999. The event attracted a huge number of cycling enthusiasts, who eventually made "the Bonifacio Global City a favorite for early morning bikers."

This year's event, which will start at 6 a.m., will also serve as part of Global City's "Summer Camp at the Fort" activities.

Top officials of the FCAAF, led by president John Liwag Yap, are expected to grace the event held in cooperation with the Greenhills Cycling Club and Cycle Shack.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA
By Mr. 999

Race 1—1. Classy Babe 2. American Beauty 3. Plus Factor

Race 2—1. High Pitch 2. Foreign Exchange 3. That's My Tiger

Race 3—1. Super Dancer 2. Maginoo's Pride 3. Decathlete 4. Kissin Tzang

Race 4—1. Letshaveaparty 2. Populist 3. Living Legend 4. Legitimo 5. Mahdi's Gold

Race 5—1. Reign of Glory 2. Beauty and Grace 3. Lovely Luigi 4. Lady Victoria

Race 6—1. Ocean Magic 2. Feast of Diamond 3. King Cobra 4. His Excellency 5. Strong Element

Race 7—1. First of All 2. Bogart 3. Bullhorn

Race 8—1. Roman Queen 2. Grand Prize 3. As for Me 4. How About Me 5. Sham Sham

Race 9—1. Power Drive 2. Sonata 3. Midnight Rose 4. District Three 5. Project Genesis

Race 10—1. Cubano 2. Pasikatera 3. Guts Pleaser 4. Flying Joey

Race 11—1. The warrior 2. Dragon Strike 3. Top Quest 4. Techno Blues 5. South Rim

Race 12—1. Heavy Metal 2. Cherish Emblem 3. Champs Elysees 4. Great Revelation 5. My Ballerina

Race 13—1. Touch of Jax 2. Ong Bee 3. Jhelen 4. Storm Princess 5. Dynasouls

Sparks down Miracle

ORLANDO, Florida—Tamecka Dixon scored nine of her 21 points down the stretch, as the Los Angeles Sparks beat the Orlando Miracle, 68-62. The Sparks (2-0) also got 16 points from Latasha Bycars of Friday, 12 in the first half. Lisa Leslie had a double-double with 10 points and 12 rebounds. *AP*

Sunday SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Iwahig netters sparkle

PUERTO Princesa City—Regg Ventura of Iwahig Tennis Club whipped Mark dela Pena 6-1, 6-2, and teammate Benjamin Macasaet tripped Richard Villena 6-2, 6-2 to lead the opening day winners of the 2001 Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop at the Puerto Princesa City Tennis Club hardcourts here.

Allen, Bucks prevail, force knockout match vs Sixers

MILWAUKEE—As promised, Ray Allen didn't let anybody else determine the outcome of Game 6.

Allen tied an NBA playoff record with nine 3-pointers and had his own personal 17-0 run before the Milwaukee Bucks withstood a stunning fourth-quarter rally led by Allen Iverson to defeat the Philadelphia 76ers, 110-100, Friday night.

The victory tied the Eastern Conference finals at three games apiece. Game 7 will be Sunday night (Monday morning in Manila) in Philadelphia, with the winner moving on to play the Los Angeles Lakers in the NBA Finals.

Allen finished with a career playoff-high 41 points for the Bucks, who let a 33-point lead dip to 10 in the fourth quarter as Iverson was unstoppable. Iverson scored 26 points in the fourth quarter, three shy of the NBA record set by Sleepy Floyd of Golden State in 1987, and finished with 46.

Allen's final two 3-pointers were the biggest of the game, coming after Philadelphia had pulled within 10 with 5:14 remaining.

Allen's performance came one day after he alleged that the NBA would rather see a 76ers-Lakers final than a Bucks-Lakers final. He spent a long time before the game sitting at his locker defending his words, then went out and made the biggest statement of the series.

Hitting four consecutive 3-point shots, Allen scored 19 straight Milwaukee points over the final 5 minutes of the first quarter and the first 1-1/2 minutes of the second. When he was finished, the Bucks had turned a 16-15 lead into a 33-15 edge.

Halftime points

Allen had 25 points at halftime, 31 before the second half was two minutes old. His nine 3-pointers tied the NBA record set by Rex Chapman of Phoenix in 1997 and matched by Vince Carter of Toronto against the 76ers on May 11.

In the highest scoring game of the series, the Bucks improved to 3-0 this postseason when facing elimination.

"We just had to keep our composure. We've been known to blow leads," Allen said.

After being forced to play Philadelphia's slowdown style during the previous three games, the Bucks turned this one into an uptempo game as soon as they could.

Iverson made his first two shots—both 3-pointers—but was hit with a technical foul by referee Joey Crawford midway through the first quarter. That turned out to be the moment when the momentum shifted squarely in Milwaukee's favor.

Free throw

Allen hit the technical free throw for a 17-15 lead, then closed the quarter with a pair of 3s. Allen started the second quarter with another 3-pointer, then came up with a steal, two foul shots and a 3-pointer in transition that made it 33-15.

Glenn Robinson scored his first points of the game on a corner jumper that gave the Bucks a 40-17 lead, and Allen added two more 3-pointers over the final 2:04 of the second quarter to give Milwaukee a 60-31 halftime advantage.

Allen began the third quarter with yet another 3-pointer, then converted a fast-break lay-up on which he was fouled by Aaron McKie. He pumped his fists as he lay on the ground, then got up and completed the three-point play.

He later fed Robinson for a 3-pointer after Sam Cassell grabbed an offensive rebound, making it 75-46.

Iverson went to the bench with 2:37 left in the third quarter and the 76ers trailing by 28, then came out and had a four-point play, a three-point play, a 3-pointer and two foul shots early in the fourth quarter as the Sixers pulled to 84-73 with eight minutes left.

Allen hit his eighth 3-pointer with 6:21 left for an 89-75 lead and his ninth with 4:54 left to make it 92-79. Iverson reached 24 points for the quarter by converting a three-point play with 4:37 left, but Milwaukee scored the next four points to end the threat

ALLEN (left) puts up a shot and fishes a foul from McKie in the third quarter. AP

PBA: 4 more squads see action today

By Marc Anthony Reyes

Games today:
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:15 p.m.—Sta. Lucia vs Pop Cola
6:30 p.m.—Shell vs Tanduay

SESAY

THREE newcomers and one *balik*-import see action today as four teams make their debut in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

Former Dallas Maverick Ansu Sesay, who led Sta. Lucia Realty to its first taste of the finals last year, makes a comeback against Pop Cola's touted import Jason Sasser in the 4:15 p.m. match.

In the second game, Shell will parade Jouquin Hawkins when it takes on Tanduay Gold which will field Kevin Freeman in its desire to erase the stigma of its dismal performance in the recent All-Filipino Cup.

Each of the four teams has its own issues to settle in this conference but all of them share one goal which is to stop San Miguel Beer's domination of the league.

The Beermen, who will see action starting on Wednesday, are the defending champions in the conference aside from being primed up for a second franchise grandslam.

The Realtors, who lost the title to SMB last year, are confident they can achieve the successful formula by bringing back Sesay, whose versatility and menacing presence underneath is often compared to Terquin Mott and David Thirdkill.

But that will be put to test when the Panthers finally unveil their reinforcement, who was the first import to arrive in the country and is therefore expected to have jelled with the team better than the rest.

Sasser is listed as 6-foot-7 with impressive credentials that include stints with the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA during the 1997 season. He also played for Texas Tech in the NCAA and Kansas City Knights in the American Basketball League.

The Turbochargers pin their hopes on Hawkins, who at 6-foot-5 is small by the 6-foot-8 league ceiling, but has a lot of experience playing for Long Beach State in the NCAA and professional leagues in Japan and Mexico.

On the other hand, Freeman, 23, is expected to bring fire in the Rhummasters' frontline, which has been left vacant by the absence of Eric Menk.

The 6-foot-7 Freeman, who replaced ineffective Cedric Goodwyn, averaged 18.8 points and 6.4 rebounds with the LA Stars in the ABA before getting picked in the first round by Sioux Falls in the Continental Basketball Association last year.

Freeman also was part of the Rudy Tomjanovich-led Team USA which won the gold in the 1999 World University Games.

Alaska wins

BALANGA, Bataan—Alaska subdued Red Bull, 84-81, officially kicking off yesterday the 2001 Commissioner's Cup before an overflow crowd at the Peoples Center here.

Terrance Badgette scored 28 points, capping a splendid first half with a brilliant string of baskets in the fourth quarter as the Aces almost folded up after seeing an 18-point lead cut to just one late in the game.

ALASKA 84—Badgette 28, Peek 22, Duremdes 15, Ordonio 6, Wallkvist 6, Allado 4, Arigo 3, Reyes 0.

RED BULL 81—Lang 20, Agustin 19, Miller 14, Harp 11, Raymundo 7, Valenzuela 5, Torion 3, Pennisi 2, Briones 0.

Quarters: 28-23; 51-35; 66-56; 84-81.

GIV grabs last slot; Tamaraws shine

By Dennis Eroa

GIV BEAUTY Soap endured scary moments before subduing PharmaQuick, 70-68, and grabbing the fourth and final semifinals slot in the PBL Chairman's Cup last night at the Makati Coliseum.

Burly Francis Sanz iced GIV's win after grabbing a crucial offensive rebound following a miss by Egay Billones as time expired.

Comfortably ahead, 68-59, GIV suddenly found itself in trouble as Jun Canoneo capped a blistering PharmaQuick rally with a triple which trimmed the deficit to just two, barely a minute left.

The Soap Makers, thus, arranged a semifinals showdown with sister team Shark Energy Drink in the semis starting on Tuesday. Shark enjoys a twice-to-beat advantage.

Meanwhile, FEU repulsed a fierce fourth-quarter rally by UE to post a 71-66 victory and win the Fr. Martin's Cup seniors title.

Cesar Catli, Mike Tolentino, Dennis Miranda, Rysal Castro and James Zablan finished in double figures as the Tamaraws roared to a huge 66-46 lead in the fourth period.

The Tams bucked the absence of standout Leo Avenido and Gerard Jones to dominate the Warriors right from the opening tip-off.

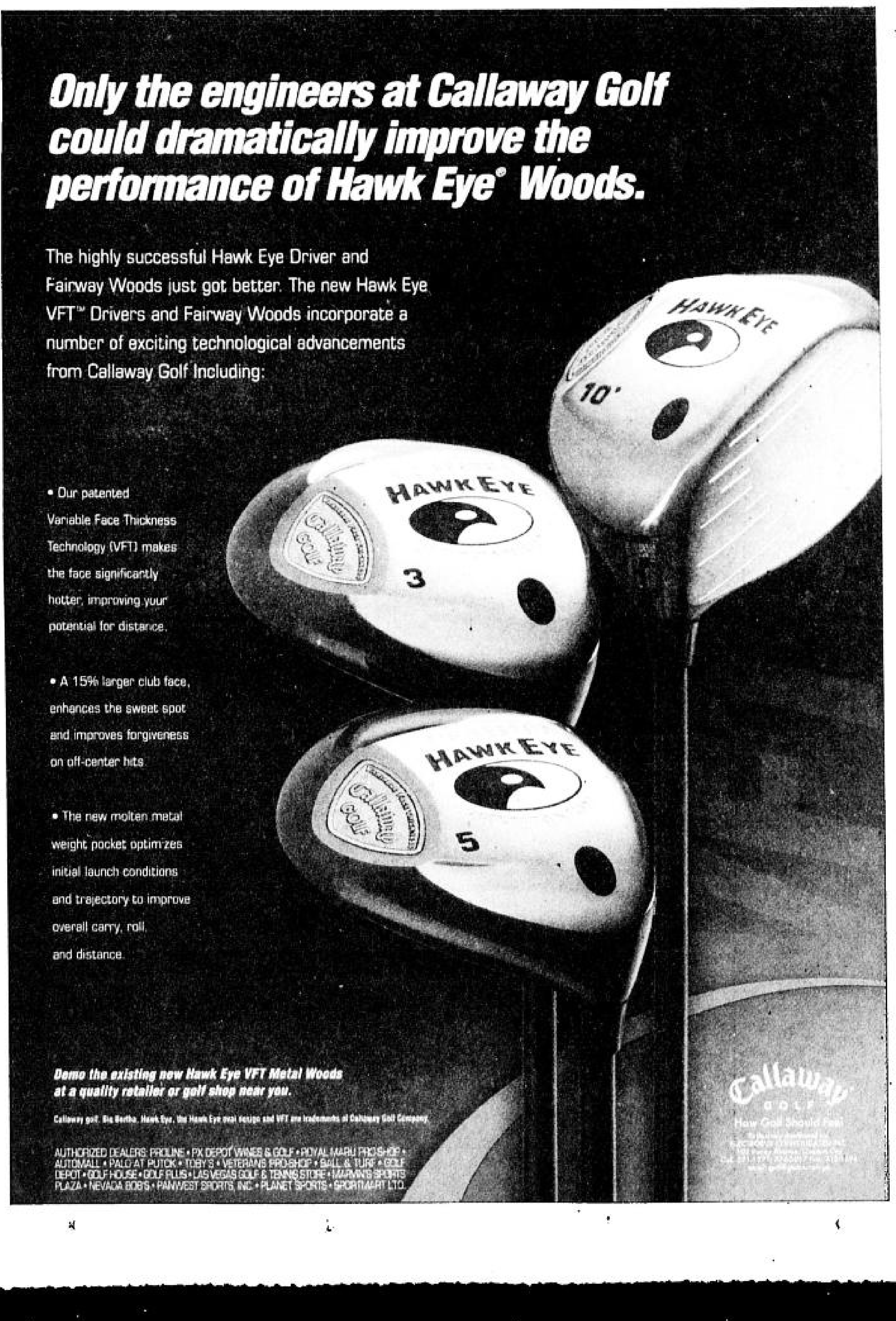
In the junior division, Adamson got the lift from Patrick Cabahug to nip Ateneo, 66-64, while UP broke away from a tight first half to whip UE, 79-58 in the women's final

Scores:

GIV 70—Billones 27, Bacani 11, De la Cuesta 11, Kalaw 8, Gumatay 4, Legaspi 4, Calo 4, Sanz 3, Epondulan 0

PHARMAQUICK 68—Dacla 11, Avenido 9, Lapinid 9, Canoneo 9, Lim 8, Jabar 8, Rodriguez 7, Jones 2, Romero 2, Alfad 2, Ianete 1.

Quarters: 22-25, 43-46, 60-52, 70-68.



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ASIAN U TILT

RP collegiate squads test mettle of Chinese

Games today:
9:30 a.m.—Opening Ceremonies
10 a.m.—Chinese-Taipei vs St. Francis of Assisi
12 nn—Beijing Shougang vs Far Eastern U
2 p.m.—College of St. Benilde vs University of Manila

FILIPINO collegiate champion teams take the challenge of their Chinese counterparts in the 2nd Asian University Basketball Championship starting today at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

National Students champion St. Francis of Assisi opens a three-game bill at 10 a.m. against Chinese-Taipei University Sports Federation while UAAP runner-up Far Eastern U will have its hands full versus Beijing Shougang Industrial College at 12 noon.

NCAA champion St. Benilde rounds out the sked at 2 p.m. against defending AUBC titlist University of Manila.

"The boys are raring to go," said St. Francis of Assisi coach Gabby Velasco. "Win or lose, this will be a great learning experience not just for the Doves team but for Philippine basketball as a whole."

The weeklong cagefest will be aired live over IBC-13, through the efforts of its chair, Renato Bello.

Asian University Sports Federation vice president Ekodjatmiko Sukarso of Indonesia will be on hand to witness the games.

Invited to attend today's simple opening rites at 9:30 a.m. are former Philippine President Fidel Ramos, Education Secretary Raul Roco, Sen. Sergio Osmena III, Philippine Olympic Committee chair Robert Aventajado, Basketball Association of the Philippines president Quinteliano Literal, Philippine Sports Commission Chair Carlos Tuason, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, former POC presidents Cristy Ramos and Julian Malonso and other national sports association officials.

Sponsors for the tournament are Pagcor, Jollibee, PCSO, Century Park Hotel, JVC, Globe Telecom, SC Johnson, San Miguel Corp., Absolute Distilled Water, Caltex, Star Sports of Korea and the Philippine Sports Commission.

The organizing committee is composed of Philip Juico, chair; Fernando Carrascoso, co-chair, and Graham Lim, executive director. Other members of the committee are Christian Tan and Tony Fabico, finance committee; Wang Jen Sen, deputy secretary general of the Chinese-Taipei Basketball Association; Danny Lopez, BAP administrative officer; and Teddy Talens, NCRAA director, as member of the technical committee.

Petron GP gets under way

FERDINAND Ong of Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast Battery is the top favorite but four other drivers are expected to make the race a lot more exciting when the fifth and sixth rounds of the Petron Grand Prix reel off today at the Subic International Raceway.

Ong is enjoying an early 10-point lead in the overall standings after winning three of the first four rounds in the Blaze super saloon category, although he faces another major challenge from Nilo Pazcoguin of Tom's-Auto Trend, Kookie Ramirez of Petron-SRA, Mike Aguilar of Caltex and Benedict de la Cruz of Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast.

"It will be tough, but I'll try my best to win again and keep the lead," said Ong, who has a four-round aggregate of 30 points under the 10-8-6-5-4 scoring system used by the organizing Sports Values Inc.

Pazcoguin is second with 20 points, followed by Ramirez with 17 points, Aguilar with 12 points and De la Cruz with 10 points.

Pazcoguin, however, is leading by 12 points over Aguilar, 36-24, in Class B. De la Cruz is third with 20 points.

In Class C, Ricardo Loi of La Opera-Agip-GNC is also nursing a nine-point lead over Mon Lindo of Gulf Oil-MP Turbo, 26-17.

Also favored this weekend are Monching Gutierrez of Gulf Oil-MP Turbo, Tom Pastor of Team TEC and Alex Padua of Gulf Oil-MP Turbo in the SVI Challenge Cup; Menchie Francisco of SRA and Oscar Aguilar of Caltex in novice; and Mikko David of Caltex, Carlo Pastor of Team TEC and Carlos Anton in production.

Gutierrez is way ahead in the SVI Challenge Cup with 36 points against Pastor's 22 points and Padua's 14 points.

Francisco, one of two female entries in the registry, is also ahead over Aguilar, 26-20.

The awarding of trophies will be held immediately after the races.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

TENNIS: 2001 French Open—Day 7 Elimination at 5 p.m. (r - tomorrow at 1 a.m.) on SkyCable 17
ATP Tennis Show at 7 p.m. on ESPN
BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 7:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
Asian Basketball Show at 6 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
This Week in the NBA at 11:30 p.m. on CNN
GOLF: PGA Memorial Tournament, Third Round at 1 p.m. on Star Sports
Golfglobe 2001 at 5:30 p.m. on Star Sports
U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship, Third Round at 8 p.m. on ESPN

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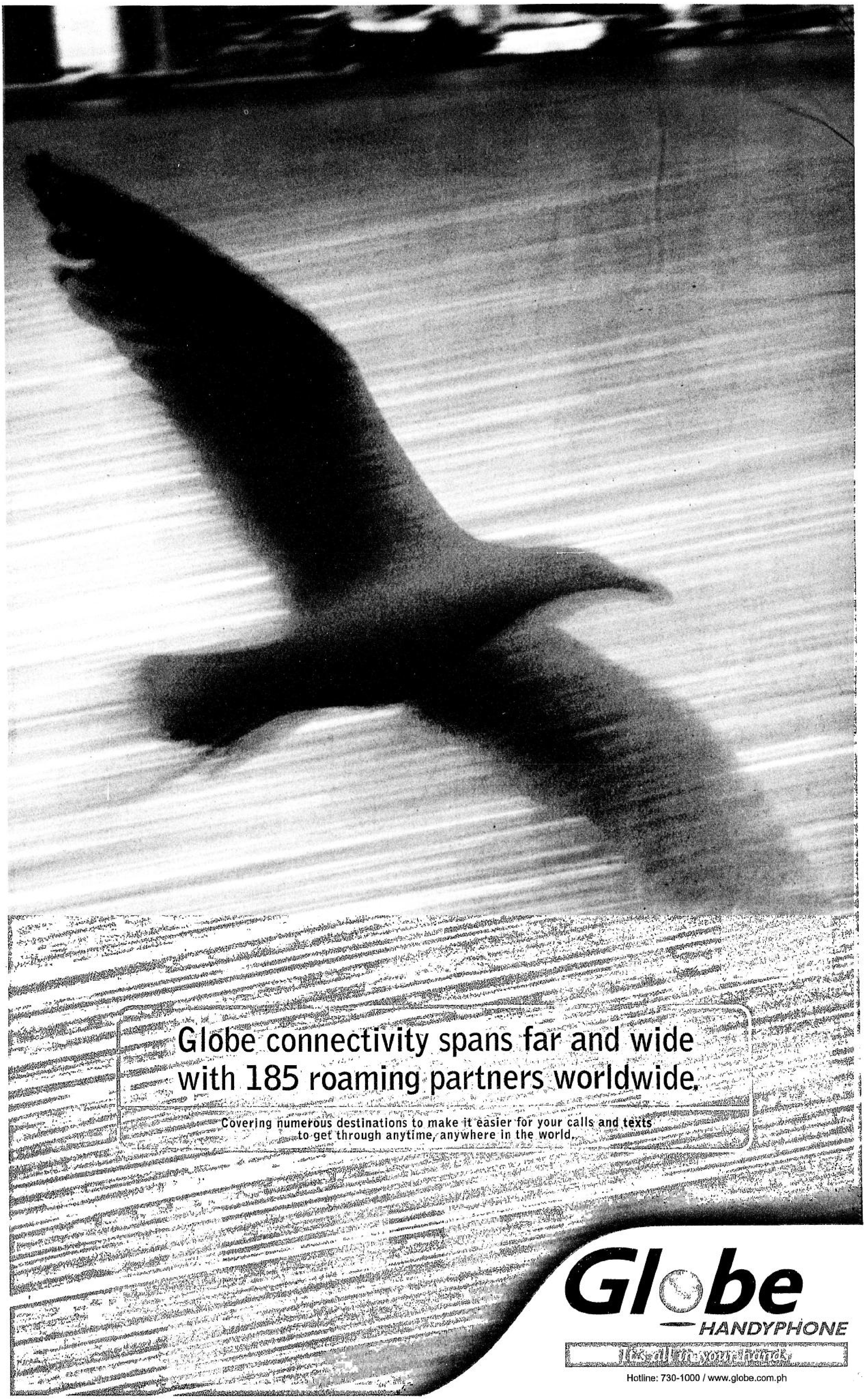

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■ Maynilad water work on sked, says Alunan
A24

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

■ Guard kills man over P20
A24

Kidnap-for-ransom gang boss captured

By Carmela Reyes
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CAMP GENERAL ALEJO SANTOS, Bulacan—A police team on Wednesday arrested the suspected leader of a kidnap-for-ransom gang that has been preying on Chinese Filipino traders in Central Luzon and Metro Manila.

Rolando Cruz, 42, said to be the leader of the "Esting Gang," had just arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Pasay City when he was arrested by a team composed of members of the Bulacan police and of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group based in Malolos town in this province.

Senior Supt. Edgardo Acuña, Bulacan police director, said Cruz has a standing warrant of arrest in the municipal trial court of Sta. Maria town, also in Bulacan, for kidnapping.

Police said Cruz had just come from General Santos City when he was arrested. He was turned over to the CIDG regional office in Camp Olivas in San Fernando, Pampanga.

Police said Cruz is a suspect in the May 8 abduction of Jake Ocampo, driver of FilMills Manufacturing Co. in Sta. Maria, whom he mistook for Alfonso Tan, a son of the company owner.

KIDNAP-FOR-RANSOM/A24

Three cops per school

By Blanche S. Rivera

POLICEMEN will be fielded to safeguard public and private schools in most parts of Metro Manila when classes open tomorrow.

THREE/A24

Wife-beater stabbed dead by teenage son

By Alcuin Papa

UNABLE to stand the sight of his father beating up his mother, a 16-year-old boy stabbed his father dead on Friday in Tondo, Manila.

The victim, a 46-year-old native of Sto. Nino, Cagayan and a resident of Velasquez Street, Tondo, was stabbed twice in the chest. He died on the way to the Mary Johnston Hospital, police said.

On Friday, the man accused his wife of flirting with other men, which sparked a quarrel, said PO3 Rodelio Lingcong of the Western Police District's homicide section.

About 10:45 p.m., the son came home just in time to see his father beating up his mother, police said.

When the boy tried to separate his parents, the father turned on his son and punched him. The boy pulled out a knife and stabbed his father in the stomach and forearm.

The boy fled after the stabbing, police said.

GENTXT

June Gig Guide

"Oye!" Sabor Latino at The Abbey
Catch the Latin fever with top rate Latin music and dance with Sabor Latino band! First 50 GENTXTers get VIP passes to the event.
>> The Abbey, Cebu - 7:30 PM**
1

Crossover Presents: Regine
Asia's Songbird serenades lucky GENTXTers in a night of stirring ballads. First 5 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting June 6 get a pair of tickets.
>>Captain's Bar, Mandarin Oriental - 8:00 PM*
7

"The Replicant", Advanced Screening
(in cooperation with DWTM)
Jean Claude Van Damme turns evil in this action-packed thriller about a crazed serial killer. First 50 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting June 8 get a pair of free movie invites.
>> SM Megamall Cinema 11 - 7:30 PM*
11

Ralph Launch
Ralph Lauren launches its newest fragrance for women, Ralph, with a double treat for GENTXTers: a surprise gift for the first 1,000 GENTXTers and movie invites for the first 40 GENTXTers at the event to download the special ringtone and the Ralph logo on the first day.
>> North Court, Powerplant Mall, Rockwell 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
16&17

"Tomb Raider", Advanced Screening
(in cooperation with Channel E!)
Angelina Jolie slinks into character as video game heroine Lara Croft. First 15 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting June 19 get a pair of free invites.
>>Louie's THX Cinema- 7:30 PM*
20

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Maynilad work ahead of sked, says Alunan

MAYNILAD Water Services Inc. expects the early return of normal water service to many places in Metro Manila since the nine interconnection and valve insertion projects, which occasioned the water service interruption, have been moving ahead of schedule.

"I'm happy to receive initial reports that the interconnection work seems to be ahead of schedule so far," Maynilad president Rafael Alunan III yesterday said in a statement. "If we can keep this up, then we can expect an early return to normalcy."

Maynilad operations head Thierry Krieg earlier reported to Alunan that work is on schedule, no problems have been encountered, and he expects no extension of the water service interruption.

Among the first work to be finished was the insertion of a butterfly valve on the newly installed pipeline at the corner of 8th Street and 6th Avenue in Caloocan City, which was completed at 7:45 a.m. yesterday, Krieg reported.

Alunan also lauded the teamwork and the cooperation of Interior Secretary Joey Lina, the Bureau of Fire Protection, the Metro Manila Development Authority and the Chinese volunteer fire brigades in providing additional tankers to augment Maynilad's fleet and assist in the water distribution in waterless areas.

The water rationing scheme went into effect to cope with the three-day water service interruption in Maynilad's West Zone.

A total of 172 tankers from Maynilad, the BFP, the local governments of Manila, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Caloocan, Quezon City and Malabon were fielded to serve the public, apart from the tankers of the volunteer fire brigades.

A command post has been set up, manned by Maynilad vice president for logistics Inaki Gimenez Sr., Supt. Danilo Cabrera of the BFP, Ramon Santiago of the MMDA, and Julio Bitonio of the DILG.

Dencio's man killed over P20

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

A FIGHT over who should get a P20-tip led a security guard to kill a parking attendant in front of a popular bar along Katipunan Road in Quezon City on Friday night.

Members of the Central Police District are now hunting down security guard Arjun Yanson of Topspeed Security Agency, who fled shortly after he shot Edwin Aguilar, 33, of Crocos Street, Barangay Sauyo, Novaliches.

Investigator PO3 Jun Mortel said the shooting happened about 10 p.m. Friday in front of Dencio's Bar and Grill.

Witnesses told police investigators that shortly before the shooting, Yanson and Aguilar were seen arguing over a P20-tip that a customer had given to Yanson. The two men apparently had an agreement to share tips given by customers, police said.

Just before they started arguing, Aguilar approached Yanson to get his share of the tips but the security guard refused, police said. Witnesses said they later heard a gunshot and saw Aguilar falling to the ground.

Aguilar was shot once in the chest and died on the spot, police said.

Also in Quezon City, a 14-year-old boy was shot dead by a jobless man in Barangay Payatas A.

Police identified the victim as Marlon Bacal, of Rosal Extension in Payatas A. Bacal was reportedly shot by his neighbor Jonie Clarito, police said.

Bacal's friend John Benigno told police that they were walking on their way home when Clarito blocked their path and started throwing stones at Bacal. Benigno said he did not know why.

He said Bacal told Clarito to stop stoning him even while he tried to get near the suspect. Clarito then took out a homemade shotgun and shot Bacal at close range, police said.

Clarito fled after the shooting.

PARENTS and students make last-minute purchases of school supplies for the opening of classes tomorrow.
ERIK ARAZAS

Spoiled spaghetti downs 20

ABOUT 20 people, mostly children and teenagers, were rushed to different hospitals for diarrhea and possible food poisoning after they ate spoiled spaghetti during a *santacruzan* in Sta. Ana, Manila on Friday night.

Brought to the Philippine General Hospital were Angelica Bertel, 10; Denise Escanilla, 13; Ma. Cristina Morales, 7; Realyn Recot, 17; Sigried Mariposong, 19; Meann Benson, 8; Tiggy Boy Benson, 7; Gilbert Ignacio, 19; and Erlinda Rizon, 15.

Two others were brought to the Polymedic Hospital in Mandaluyong—Miguel Benson, 7, and Michelle Benson, 8.

According to some of the victim's relatives, the group ate spaghetti and bread after the *santacruzan* procession on Roxas Street in Sta. Ana. When some of them got home, they started to suffer severe diarrhea and vomiting.

As of yesterday morning, more victims were being admitted to the PGH with the same symptoms, accompanied by fever and nausea.

By yesterday afternoon, doctors had discharged some of the victims. The sick people's relatives vowed to ask authorities to identify who cooked the spaghetti.

Alcuin Papa

Guard in P1.3-M robs nabbed

POLICE on Thursday arrested a security guard who is suspected to be a member of the gang that took more than P1.3 million in jewelry in separate robbery cases in Malabon City last month.

Marcelo Ilao, a resident of Gen. Luna Street, 5th Avenue, Caloocan City, was arrested after he was spotted in Caloocan by the housemaid of one of his alleged victims.

Ilao is facing theft charges before the Malabon City Prosecutor's Office. He was detained in the city jail.

He allegedly robbed Raoul Villanueva of M.H. del Pilar Street in Tugatog, Malabon about 2:30 p.m. on May 20.

Ilao took P843,000 worth of jewelry, police said.

Villanueva's housemaid allowed Ilao into the house after he identified himself as a relative of Villanueva, investigation showed.

The security guard requested the housemaid to buy him snack at a nearby store, police said. While the housemaid was away, Ilao sneaked into Villanueva's room and took the jewels, police said.

About 3 p.m. the following day, Ilao robbed the house of lawyer Jose Rico Domingo on Bronze Street also in Tugatog, police said. He was able to take P500,000 worth of jewelry, police said.

The suspect was arrested after Domingo's housemaid Mergency Valencia saw him at a hardware store in Sangandaan, Caloocan.

Christian V. Esguerra

Three cops per school

(From page A23)

Chief Supt. Rowland Albano, deputy director of the National Capital Region Police Office, said two to three policemen would be detailed right outside schools to assist security guards in case of chaos and extreme traffic congestion.

Albano said the deployment of police in metropolitan schools was part of the four-phase security preparations for the school opening, which is expected to trigger traffic congestion and criminality.

The policemen guarding the more than 1,000 schools in Metro Manila will come from the various police districts, with the eastern area fielding about 600 policemen for the school opening.

It was not yet confirmed how many would come from the central, southern, northern and western police districts, but Albano said the NCRPO would ensure that they would contribute uniformed men as "general safety nets" for the schools.

Aside from assigning policemen to schools, the Philippine National Police headquarters will also deploy 1,500 rookie policemen as roving patrols.

Albano said the PNP would assign the rookies to foot and bike patrol.

About 18 million students are expected to go to school tomorrow, bringing the heavy traffic congestion characteristic of school days.

Leaders of the Philippine National Association of School Security Organizations (Philnasso) yesterday said in a radio interview, together with Albano, that the private security guards were enough to control the influx of students this year.

Philnasso president Jose Dino said the guards were "well-informed and well-trained" to ensure the safety of students. He added there were enough policemen to man not just the gates but the school premises as well.

The NCRPO will give security guards a police watchlist or gallery of wanted criminals as part of the fourth phase of Oplan Balik-Aral.

Albano said this should educate the security guards as to the identity of the usual suspects.

The guards could help the PNP if they happen to recognize the suspects, the NCRPO deputy chief said.

He said the NCRPO has been coordinating with the Metro Manila mayors to enlist the help of the local government's public safety and traffic management personnel for the school opening.

Local government workers can clean up the streets of illegal vendors and help clear traffic in the congested areas, where most schools are located.

'Waray-Waray' bank robbery gang busted

By Christian V. Esguerra

POLICE said they busted on Thursddy the notorious "Waray-Waray gang" which is believed to be responsible for the series of bank robberies in Valenzuela City early this year.

Police said they arrested three suspected key members of the gang in their hideout in Bagong Nayon, Barangay Bagbaguin, Valenzuela.

Supt. Nemesio Neron, Valenzuela police chief, identified them as Jose Necesario, 22, Roger Auxterio, 24, and Richard Perdigon, 22, all residents of 459 Bagong Nayon, Bagbaguin.

Recovered from them were a .22-caliber Smith and Wesson revolver, two homemade .38-caliber revolvers, two magazines, and ammunition, police said.

The three men's arrest came after a resident reported the presence of armed men in a house in Bagong Nayon, investigators said.

After watching the hideout for several days, police raided it Thursday about 2 p.m.

The raiders said Necesario, who had a handgun, tried to escape but they cornered him inside the hideout.

Auxterio and Perdigon were arrested minutes later.

The gang was believed to be responsible for the P400,000 payroll robbery of Crisanta Garments in Arty Subdivision, Marulas on March 9.

Weeks later, the group allegedly broke into Gentex Plastic Co. in Barangay Ugong and took P600,000 in payroll money. About a month later, the same group allegedly stole the P250,000 payroll money of Metro North Gas Corp. in Lawang Bato, police said.

The last robbery attributed to the group was of Choice Farm Co. in Bagbaguin, which lost P200,000. A security guard was killed during the robbery, police said.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, June 3, 2001
Pentecost Sunday

1st Reading: *Acts 2:1-11*

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. And suddenly out of the sky came a sound like a strong rushing wind and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. There appeared tongues as if of fire, which parted and came to rest upon each one of them. All were filled with Holy Spirit and began to speak other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

Staying in Jerusalem were religious Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered, all excited because each heard them speaking in his own language. Full of amazement and wonder, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? How is it that we hear them in our own native language? Here are Parthians, Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and foreigners who accept Jewish beliefs, Cretians and Arabians; and all of us hear them proclaiming in our own language what God, the Savior, does.

2nd Reading: *Rom 8:8-17*

So, those walking according to the flesh cannot please God.

Yet your existence is not in the flesh, but in the spirit, because the Spirit of God is within you. If you did not have the Spirit of Christ, you would not belong to him. But Christ is within you; though the body is branded by death as a consequence of sin, the spirit is life and holiness. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is within you, He who raised Jesus Christ from among the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies. Yes, he will do it through his Spirit who dwells within you.

Then, brothers, let us leave the flesh and no longer live according to it. If not, we will die. Rather, walking in the Spirit, let us put to death the body's deeds so that we may live.

All those who walk in the Spirit of God are sons and daughters of God. Then, no more fear: you did not receive a spirit of slavery, but the Spirit that makes you sons and daughters and every time we cry, "*Abba!* (this is Dad!) Father!" the Spirit assures our spirit that we are sons and daughters of God. If we are children, we are heirs, too. Ours will be the inheritance of God and we will share it with Christ; for if we now suffer with him, we will also share Glory with him.

Gospel: *Jn 14:15-16, 23-26*

Jesus said to his disciples, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments; and I will ask the Father and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever, Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him; and we will come to him and make a room in his home. But if anyone does not love me, he will not keep my words, and these words that you hear are not mine but the Father's who sent me.

I told you all this while I was still with you. From now on the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I have told you."

Commentary:

With this Pentecost solemnity we reach the climax of the whole Lenten-Easter season. The Spirit, the supreme gift of the Most High in Jesus slain on the cross and raised from the dead, must now be the dynamic principle of the believers' lives. The Spirit makes the Jesus movement not merely a historical phenomenon 2000 years ago but an event reaching up to this moment in time and even up to the end of the ages. We, imbued by the Spirit of Jesus, become then the divine dwelling place in time and space irrespective of any cultural affiliation.

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Victims bring suspect to cops

By Alcuin Papa

A SUSPECTED illegal recruiter landed in jail yesterday after a group of people she allegedly cheated of about P3 million turned her over to the Western Police District.

The suspect was Irene Alde, 50, married, resident of 1674 Catq St. Makati City and a marketing representative of Renna International Manpower Agency located at Midland Plaza along Pedro Gil Street in Ermita, Manila, according to Supt. Miguel de Mayo Laurel.

Her alleged victims made a citizen's arrest and literally dragged Alde to the WPD headquarters on United Nations Avenue, Manila after they caught her in her house yesterday at noon.

They told police they were already working in the Middle East when their employer sent them home after four months without pay because Alde allegedly provided them with fake documents.

Kidnap ...

(From page A23)

Ocampo was released on May 18 when his employer paid the kidnappers P250,000 in ransom.

Last week, police arrested three other suspects in Ocampo's abduction in Pampanga, Bulacan and Metro Manila. The suspects were identified as Alfredo Concepcion, Armando Cabral and Luisito Comia.

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11	DOLBY SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
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9	DOLBY SURROUND	ALAS DOSE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURN
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5	DOLBY SURROUND	TRAFFIC
6	DOLBY SURROUND	ANGEL EYES
7	DTS	THE MUMMY RETURN
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	THE MUMMY RETURN
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KAMASUTRA 2001
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5	ULTRA SURROUND	OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
6	ULTRA SURROUND	VALENTINE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	ALAS DOSE
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	ANGEL EYES
9	ULTRA SURROUND	THE MUMMY RETURN
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6	ULTRA SURROUND	LUCKY NUMBERS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	THWE MUMMY RETURN

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2	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
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2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	TRAFFIC
3	DOLBY SURROUND	KAMASUTRA 2001
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
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3	THE MUMMY RETURN THX In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (Phil. Premiere) Art Film In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	SOMEONE LIKE YOU In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	THE MUMMY RETURN In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	TRAFFIC In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREEN[illegible]

1	ALL THE PRETTY HORSES (Phil. Premiere) In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
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3	THE MUMMY RETURN In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	ALAS DOSE In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	CUT AWAY In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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3	CARTA ALAS
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5	KAMASUTRA 2001

Metropolis
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4	RESERVE
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3	SAMBAHIN ANG PURI KO
4	ALAS DOSE

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2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	CUT AWAY
5	KAMASUTRA 2001
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7 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
8 (SDDS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
9 (DOLBY)	ANGEL EYES

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2	ALAS DOSE

Grand Central
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3	CARTA ALAS
4 (SDDS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
5	TRAFFIC
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7 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

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1 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
2	ALAS DOSE
3	KAMASUTRA 2001
4	RESERVE
5 (DOLBY)	ANGEL EYES
6	CUT AWAY
7 (DOLBY)	THE MUMMY RETURN
8	CARTA ALAS

Ortigas
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CINEMA tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	ALAS DOSE
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3	CARTA ALAS
4	
5	

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2	ALAS DOSE
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2 (DTS)	VALENTINE
3 (DOLBY)	THE MUMMY RETURN
4	CARTA ALAS

Lianas Cinema
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3	ALAS DOSE
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Lianas MovieCity
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5	THE POSSESSED

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1	THE MUMMY RETURN
2	CARTA ALAS
3	ALAS DOSE

Olivarez Los Baños
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2	CARTA ALAS
3	ALAS DOSE

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3	ALAS DOSE
4	THE MUMMY RETURN

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DOLBY dts SDDS

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	TRAFFIC
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	KAMASUTRA 2001
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ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
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QUEZON-1	CARTA ALAS
REMAR	ALAS DOSE
REMAR-2	THE MUMMY RETURN
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	BABAENG PUTIK
OCEAN CINEMA-A	PANABLA
OCEAN CINEMA-B	CRISELDA
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	TRAFFIC
CINEMA-2	THE MUMMY RETURN
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	MASARAP HABANG MAINIT
CINEMA-2	CARTA ALAS
CINEMA-3	KAMASUTRA 2001
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
CINEMA-6	VALENTINE
CINEMA-7	SPY KIDS
CINEMA-8	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	THE MUMMY RETURN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE MUMMY RETURN
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	ANGEL EYES
CINEMA-12	TRAFFIC
CINEMA-14	CUT AWAY
CINEMA-15	ALAS DOSE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SPY KIDS
CINEMA-2	ANGEL EYES
CINEMA-3	THE MUMMY RETURN
CINEMA-4	TRAFFIC
CINEMA-5	THE MUMMY RETURN
CINEMA-6	THE MUMMY RETURN
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	KUNG LILIGAYA KA .
CINEMA-2	WANTED GRO
CINEMA-4	SWEET NOVEMBER
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	BODY TO BODY
CINEMA-2	LAGARISTA
CINEMA-4	BAIT

'Varian's War' on Hallmark

"VARIAN'S War" is like Steven Spielberg's "Schindler's List," which paid homage to German businessman Oskar Schindler who saved Jews from Nazi persecution.

"Varian's War" celebrates the noble efforts of an obscure American, Varian Fry, who risked his life to rescue 2,000 European artists and intellectuals from Nazi terrorism by sending them to America during World War II.

Fry's efforts saved not only the lives of such notable personalities as artist Marc Chagall and author Hannah Arendt but also a large part of Western culture.

The film is produced by Barbra Streisand.

Oscar winner William Hurt plays Fry. Julia Ormond plays Fry's charming and attractive partner in bringing the intellectuals to safety, Miriam Davenport (a composite of a couple of women who worked with Fry in real life), whose attempt to seduce the bisexual Fry is met with polite rejection.

A show-stealer is Lynn Redgrave in in the small role of Alma Werfel, wife of author Franz Werfel and a former spouse of composer Gustav Mahler. Werfel took a lot of risk to smuggle some original Mahler compositions out of France.

"Varian's War" premieres exclusively on Hallmark Channel (Home Cable's Channel 53, SkyCable's Channel 38, Destiny Cable Channel 25 and local Cable Boss affiliates throughout the Philippines) tonight at 8 p.m.

New bands Downtown

DOWNTOWN Music Bar and Restaurant at the Rembrandt Hotel fills June with more live entertainment.

In addition to its regular weekday acts, Downtown features three new bands during weekends—Pinoy Tubo on Thursdays, Spindrift on Fridays and The Oasys Band on Saturdays.

The Oasys Band, formed in 1994, includes vocalists Cynthia del Pilar and Oliver Conida. Its repertoire ranges from R&B and jazz to reggae and soul music. The band has also performed in other music lounges in the metropolis like Streetlife, Strumm's, Grand Boulevard Hotel, Gillespie's, Conservatory, Siete Picados, Tap Room, Cusco Lounge, Cats Nightspot, Calesa Bar, Jazz Windows and New Orleans Café.

This month, Downtown offers a "Six-2-Nine" special on all local beers which go for only P40.

"Rack your Bills" promo is still ongoing. A customer earns points for every P100 spent at Downtown. The total points can be exchanged for gift items from Hotel Rembrandt and Best World Beverage Brands Inc.

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NOW SHOWING

TRAFFIC
(PG-13 R.T. 2:25)
Drama

June 3 - Sunday
3:10 PM - Traffic
6:00 PM - Traffic
8:50 PM - Traffic
11:30 PM - Traffic

PEARL HARBOR
opens JUNE 6 - Wednesday

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Lahat ng trip

Showbiz	
Showbiznews	SHOWBIZ
Scoop of the day	SCOOP
Scoop editors	SCOOP <writer>
Music Top Ten	HITS

Local	
Top National News	NEWS
Business (ABS-CBN)	BIZNEWS
Balita (GMA)	GMABALITA/BALITA
Frontpage	FRONTPAGE
Saksi	SAKSI
Provincial (Get news)	NEWSLOCAL <provincial code>
International	
World News	WORLDNEWS
Asia News	ASIANEWS
Electoral	
List categories	EBANTAY
News	EBANTAY <category>
Information Technology	
Computerworld	CWMAG
PC Magazine	PCMAG
The Web Magazine	WEBMAG

Ringtones	
Get tone	TONE <tone name>
Send tone	TONE <tone name> <mobile number>
New	TONE NEW
Top 10	TONE TOPTEN
Categories	TONEMENU
Search	TONESEARCH <categories>
Picture Messages	
Get Picture	PIC <picture name>
Send Picture	PIC <picture name> <mobile number> <message>
New Pictures	PIC NEW
Top 10	PIC TOPTEN
Categories	PICMENU
Search	PICSEARCH
Logos	
Operator logo	
Get logo	LOGO <logo name>
Send logo	LOGO <logo name> <mobile number>
New logo	LOGO NEW
Top 10	LOGO TOPTEN
Categories	LOGOMENU
Search	LOGOSEARCH <category>
Group Icons	
Get icon	ICON <icon name>
Send icon	ICON <icon name> <mobile number>
New icon	ICON NEW
Top 10	ICON TOPTEN

Word of the Day	WORD
Today in History	HISTORY
Quote of the Day	QUOTE

Get list of subjects	VOTE
Get question	VOTE <subject>
To answer	VOTE <subject> A/B/C/D
Results	VOTE RESULTS <category>
Help	VOTE HELP

Traffic	
Areas available	TRAFLIST
Aurora Blvd.	TRAF AURORA
C-5	TRAF C5
Coastal Road	TRAF COASTAL
Commonwealth	TRAF COMMON
EDSA-Makati	TRAF EDSA MKT
EDSA-Ortigas	TRAF EDSA ORT
EDSA-Pasay Rd.	TRAF EDSA PSY
EDSA-QC	TRAF EDSA QC
NLEX	TRAF NLEX
Ortigas Ave.	TRAF ORT
Quezon Ave.	TRAF QUEZON
Ramon Magsaysay	TRAF RMAGSAYSAY
Roxas Blvd.	TRAF ROXAS
SLEX	TRAF SLEX
Taft Ave.	TRAF TAFT
Weather	
Local	
Forecast	WEA <city>
List Areas	WEA <category>
Weather Update	WEAUPDT or WEATHERUPDT
World	WORLDWEA <city>

Foreign Exchange Rate	
US	USDR
Hongkong	RATE HKD
Singapore	RATE SGD
Japan	RATE JPY
Germany	RATE DEM
UK	RATE GBP
Others	RATE <country or currency>
Currency Converter	CURR <amount> <currency1> <currency2>
Stocks	
Quote	STO <stock code> or STOCKQ <stock code>
Codes	STOCK <company name>
Index Prices	
Phil. Stock Exchange	STOIND PSE
List Indices	STOIND LIST
Prices	STOIND <index code>
Foreign Index	
Index Prices	FINDX <index code>
List Indices	FINDX LIST
Mutual Funds	
Prices	FUND <company code>
Company	FUND LIST
Time Deposit	
Peso Rate	TDP <bank> <amount>
Search	TDP LIST
US Dollar Rate	TDD <bank> <amount>
Search	TDD LIST

Home and Lifestyle	
Recipe book	
Search	RECIPE SEARCH <search criteria up to 5 words>
View	RECIPE VIEW <recipe number>
Next 3 pages	RECIPE NEXT
More pages	RECIPE MORE
New Recipe	RECIPE NEW
Request for a new recipe	RECIPE REQUEST <search criteria up to 5 words>
Help	RECIPE HELP

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Talk 'N Text with zed
Talk 'N Text with zed

Sa Talk 'N Text with zed,
other things na trip mo!
to give you more choices

Para sa iba't-iba

Example: To get your HOROSCOPE

ARIES	288	Aries: Today is your lucky day!
Just type the keyword...	... send as a text message to 288...	... and you will rece your fortune!

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no, nandito na!

Sports	
Headlines	SPO/SPORTS
PBA	
News	PBANEWS
Scores	PBA
Schedule	PBASKED
Standings	PBARANK/PBATEAM
Statistics	PBASTAT
Player of the week	PBAPOW
MBA	
Scores	MBA
Schedule	MBASKED
NBA	
NBA round-up	NBA
Team News	NBANEWS <teamname>
Golf	
News	GOLF
PGA	GOLF PGA
LPGA	GOLF LPGA
Tennis	
News	TENNIS

City sites	
"Gallery, Theater, Library"	CITYSITE <establishment name> LCN <location>
Hotel	HOTEL <hotel name> LCN <location>
Flight Schedules	
Domestic	DOMFLT <carrier code> <origin> <destination>
International	INTFLT <carrier code> <origin> <destination>
Translation	
Foreign	TRANSLATE <word> <source language> <target language> "For language, key in first three letters
World time	TIME <city>

Unit Measurement Converter	
Convert	CONV <value> <unit1> <unit2>
List Units	CONV LIST
Area Codes	AREA <city or province>
Country Codes	COUN <city or province>
ZIP Codes	ZIP <municipality/district/barangay>
Emergency Info	EMER <help center code or municipality>
Local Yellow Pages Search	EYP SEARCH <company> , <location>
	EYP SEARCH <company name>
Caltex Station	
Search	CALTEX <area>
Dictionary	WHATIS <word>
Jobs	JOBS <industry or position>
Package Tracking	
DHL	DHL Package DHL <10-digit airway bill number>
DHL Station list	
List	DHLLIST
Area	DHLLIST <area>
DHL Station Info	DHLLIST <area> <station>
Fedex	FEDEX <airway bill number>
Vehicle Locator	TRACK <Rover ID> <Password>

Joke of the day	JOKE
Quiz Game	
Register	QUIZ JOIN <name or address>
Submit answer	QUIZ <question no.> <answer>
Record of Raffle entries	QUIZ ENTRY
Rules of quiz	QUIZ RULES
Quit	QUIZ QUIT
Trivia	
Question	TRIVIA Q
Answer	TRIVIA A
Jackenpoy	JP / JNP / JACKENPOY
Ask Zed	
Decider	DECIDER
Do I Date You	DOIDBU
What to do	WHAT2DO
Truth or Dare	TRUTH
	DARE
Card Games	
Blackjack	
Deal	BJ DEAL / BJK DEAL
Hit	BJ HIT / BJK HIT
Stand	BJ STAND / BJK STAND
Rules	BJ RULES / BJK RULES
Commands	BJ COMMANDS / BJK COMMANDS
Lucky 9	
Banker	L9 BANKER
Player	L9 PLAYER
Tie	L9 TIE
Rules	L9 RULES
Commands	L9 COMMANDS
Arcade Game	
Tamiya	
Register	TAMIYA REG <username>
Car	TAMIYA CAR
Choose car model	TAMIYA CAR <race car model>
Circuit	TAMIYA CIRCUIT
Parts	TAMIYA PARTS
Motor type	TAMIYA MOTOR <type of motor>
Rollers	TAMIYA ROLLERS <front rollers> <rear rollers>
Gears	TAMIYA GEARS <gear ratio>
Wheels	TAMIYA WHEELS <wheel type>
Tires	TAMIYA TIRES <tire type>
Chassis	TAMIYA CHASSIS <chassis type>
Set-up	TAMIYA SETUP
Race	TAMIYA RACE
Rules	TAMIYA RULES
Result	TAMIYA RESULT
Record	TAMIYA RECORD
Help	TAMIYA HELP
Sweepstakes Results	SWEEP
Lotto Results	LOTTO
Horse Racing	
List of races	RACE TIPS
Race details	RACE TIPS <race number>
Results	RACE RESULTS
Result search	RACE RESULTS <race number>

Horoscope	<zodiac sign> "e.g. PISCES, ARIES, LIBRA,Ó"
Fortune Telling	
Categories	FORTUNE LIST
Your fortune	FORTUNE <category> <outcome> "Here, you throw a coin 6 times and take note of the outcome." "Head (H), Tail (T), to find out your fortune on a specific category" Outcome (e.g. HTHTHT)
Dreams	DREAM <dream subject>
Matchmaking	MATCH <P or B> <birthday1> <birthday2> (Personal or Business Compatibility) (Birthdays of person 1 and person 2) <MMDDYY>

Movies	
Current Movies	MOVIES
Movie Location	MOV <movie title>
Theaters	THEATERS <theater name> LCN <location>
To get screening times	
SM Malls	
SM Megamall	MOVIESKED SMMEGAMALL <cinema number>
SM Southmall	MOVIESKED SMSOUTHMALL <cinema number>
SM North Edsa	MOVIESKED SMNORTHEDSA <cinema number>
SM Centerpoint	MOVIESKED SMCENTERPOINT <cinema number>
SM Guadalupe	MOVIESKED SMGUADALUPE <cinema number>
SM Fairview	MOVIESKED SMFAIRVIEW <cinema number>
SM Tutuban	MOVIESKED SMTUTUBAN <cinema number>
Glorietta	
Glorietta 1	MOVIESKED GLORIETTA1 <cinema number>
Glorietta 4	MOVIESKED GLORIETTA4 <cinema number>
Robinsons	
R. Galleria	MOVIESKED ROBINSONSGALLERIA <cinema number>
R. Place	MOVIESKED ROBINSONSERMITA <cinema number>
Others	
Town Center	MOVIESKED TOWNCENTER <cinema number>
Festival Mall	MOVIESKED FESTIVAL <cinema number>
Greenbelt	MOVIESKED GREENBELT <cinema number>
Sta Lucia Mall	MOVIESKED STALUCIA <cinema number>
Live bands Schedules	
Menu	LIVEBAND MENU
Category	LIVEBAND <category>
Bandname	LIVEBAND <bandname>
Top 10	LIVEBAND <top10>
Gig	LIVEBAND GIG <area> e.g. ORTIGAS
San Miguel Beer Gig	
List areas	SMB AREAS
Get gig sked	SMB <area> <date>
Events	EVENT <artist or title>
Bars	BAR <bar name> LCN <location>
Clubs	CLUB <club name> LCN <location>
Restaurants	RESTO <resto name> LCN <location>

Zed Mobile Mail	
Inbox	
Check Mail	MAIL READ STATUS
New Mail	MAIL READ NEW
Unread Mail	MAIL READ <message number>
Delete Mail	MAIL DELETE <message number>,<message number>
Send Mail	
Compose	MAIL SEND <recipient email address or mobile number> EMAIL or MOBILE <subject> <message> e.g. MAIL SEND johnny.santos@abcompany.com EMAIL presentation set at 10 am
Reply	MAIL REPLY <number> <message>
Forward	MAIL FORWARD <RECIPIENT> <msg number> email or mobile <message>
Zed Contacts	
Add	CONTACT ADD <nickname> FULLNAME= <____> MOBILE NUMBER=<____> EMAIL=<____> e.g. CONTACT ADD JS FULLNAME=Johnny Santos MOBILE NUMBER=23456789 EMAIL=jsantos@abcompany.com "*You may add company, home address, etc."
Edit	CONTACT MODIFY <nickname> <email, home residence or mobile number=____> CONTACT MODIFY JS EMAIL=jsantos@abcompany.com
Forward	CONTACT FORWARD <recipient> EMAIL or MOBILE <contact nickname> CONTACT FORWARD jfernandez@xyzcompany.com Email JS
Find	Find <first letter/letters of name>

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Rivermaya song is theme of Robin's movie

THEIR songs have been used in movies before, but Rivermaya has never recorded a theme song especially for a movie—that is, until now.

Today, Viva Records makes musical history when it launches the CD single of the song "Alab ng Puso" on "ASAP." "Alab ng Puso" is the theme song of "Buhay Kamao," the Rocky-inspired boxing movie starring Robin Padilla that hits theaters on June 12.

"Alab ng Puso" was written by Rivermaya's top man Rico Blanco and is powered by the heart-thumping rhythms of the band's earlier songs. Classified as an alternative rock song, "Alab ng Puso" promises to be another chart-topper in the best Rivermaya tradition.

"Alab ng Puso" has a music video that will be launched soon as part of the movie promo. The video features Robin in his first-ever music video appearance, directed by Joyce Bernal, who also megged the movie.

The launching of the CD single "Alab ng Puso" marks Rivermaya's official entry into the Viva Music Group.

RICO BLANCO wrote the "Buhay Kamao" theme.

Ex-singer an alien, says poll loser

DIGOS CITY, Davao del Sur—A petition for *quo warranto* has been filed against former singer Zander Khan by his rival in the mayoral race in Jose Abad Santos town in this province.

In her petition before the regional trial court here, Esther Sioco of the Nationalist People's Coalition said Khan was ineligible to assume office because he is Indonesian.

Sioco said that if Khan is disqualified, she should be allowed to assume office.

She said that if she cannot assume the mayoralty by July 1, the elected vice mayor should take the post.

Sioco lost by a slim margin to Khan, whose real name is Alexander Wangkay, in the May 14 elections. The elected vice mayor, Joel Lachica, is Sioco's brother.

Khan said the petition showed that Sioco could not accept defeat.

"It is clearly very hard for them to accept the fact that patronage politics is dead in our town," Khan said.

He said he was born to Filipino parents and raised in Jose Abad Santos. *Allan A. Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

SPY KIDS - G 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00	ANGEL EYES - P 13 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	MUMMY RETURN - P 13 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
TRAFFIC - P 13 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00	MUMMY RETURN - P 13 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30	MUMMY RETURN - P 13 12:50, 3:30, 6:10, 8:50

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AYALA CINEMAS
ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4
& All Digital Sound GREENBELT
NOW SHOWING
Art Film
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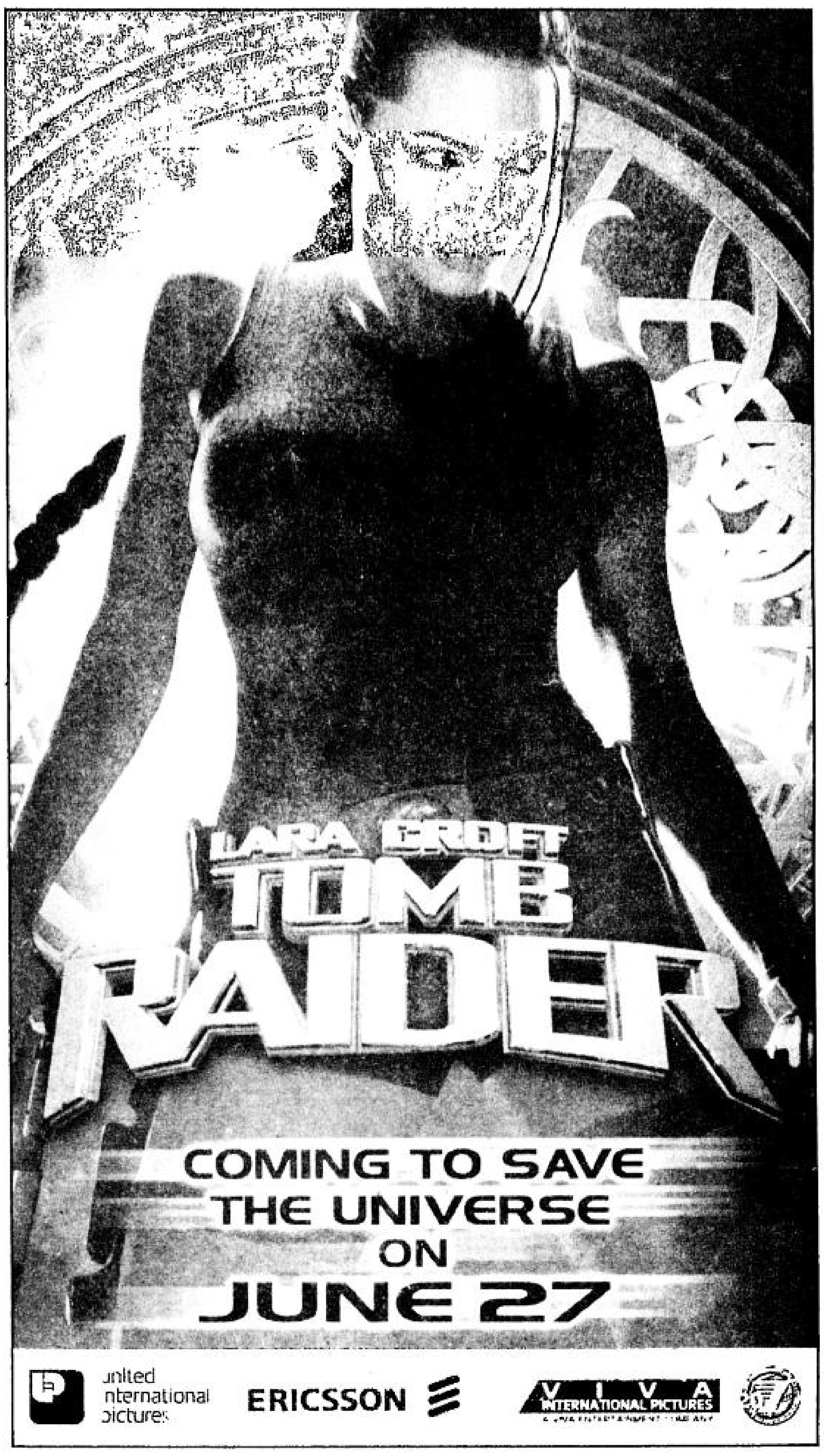
GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE
BEST ORIGINAL SCORE

ALL THE PRETTY HORSES

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
MATT DAMON
HENRY THOMAS PENELOPE CRUZ
ALL THE PRETTY HORSES

Two young men (Matt Damon and Henry Thomas) celebrate the recent ending of World War II by riding out of their native Texas into the wild west, meeting friends and fellow adventurers along the way. Once they reach Mexico, they become smitten with a young woman (Penelope Cruz) who is the daughter of a ranch owner. As foreboding clouds threaten their so-far sunny skies, the men throw themselves headlong into danger.

WINNER
Best Screnplay - Ted Tally
@ The National Board of Review, USA 2000


LARA CROFT
TOMB RAIDER
COMING TO SAVE THE UNIVERSE ON JUNE 27
United International Pictures
ERICSSON
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

unleashed on JUNE 12
MTRCB RATING ▶ GP ALL AGES ADMITTED

"FEROCIOUS FUN! THE BEST FAMILY FILM OF THE SEASON!"
THE SMART ONE ISN'T WEARING ANY PANTS.
Spot
89.9 MAGIC

OPENS JUNE 6!
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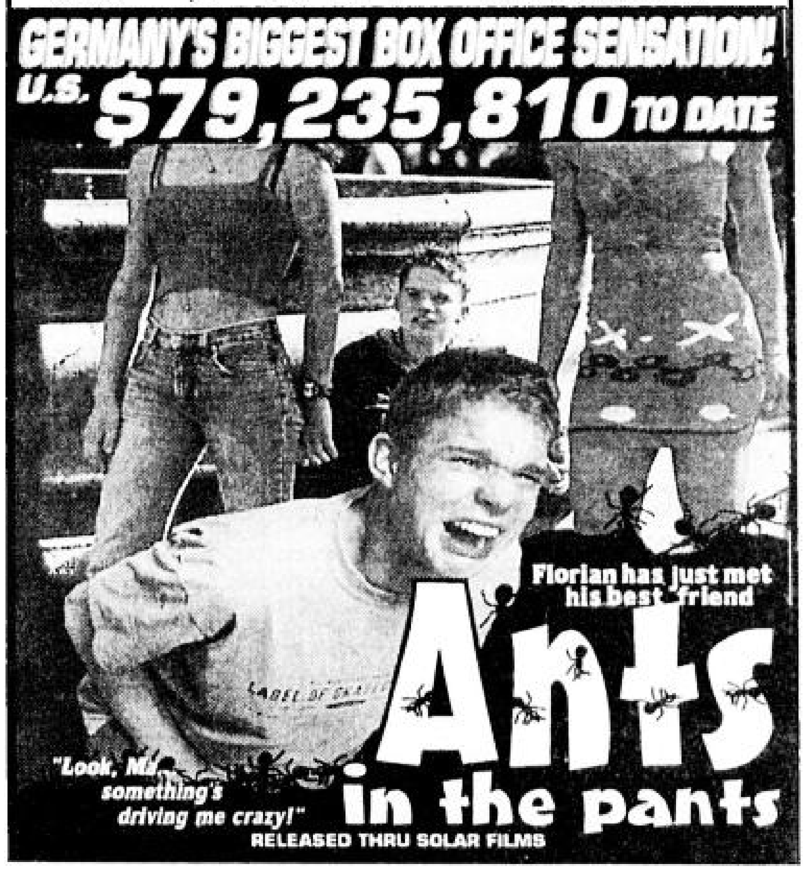
GERMANY'S BIGGEST BOX OFFICE SENSATION!
U.S. $79,235,810 TO DATE
Florian has just met his best friend
Ants in the pants
"Look, Ma, something's driving me crazy!"
RELEASED THRU SOLAR FILMS

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UMPISA NA NG PASABOG SA TAKILYA!
ACE VERGEL
IN
CARTA ALAS
HUWAG KA NANG HUMIRIT!!!
ANTOINETTE TAUS
WOWIE DE GUZMAN
& PIEL MORENA
Written and Directed by Jose N. Carreon (dgpi)
GT Films International

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
THE BIGGEST BLOCKBUSTER EVENT FILM OF THE YEAR
OPENS JUNE 6! WATCH IT ONLY IN CINEMAS

BEN AFFLECK
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Distributed by BUENA VISTA INTERNATIONAL thru COLUMBIA PICTURES

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Veritable anthology of religious phenomena

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE ETERNAL World Television Network (EWTN) is marking its 20th anniversary this year, and the Catholic channel's loyal viewers are praying that it'll continue telecasting for 20 more years, at the very least.

Of course, its founder, the irrepressible Mother **Angelica**, would riposte, "Your prayers are welcome, but we also need cash to keep EWTN running!" So keep those donations coming, folks!

Last week, we caught a particularly interesting program on EWTN (it's on Channel 54 on SkyCable): a report on 11-year-old **Audrey Santo**, a girl who's been in a coma ever since she was three years old.

Through the years, despite her being almost totally immobile and utterly dependent on others, Audrey has become known in Catholic circles as a victim soul whose suffering has been joined with Jesus Christ's own passion.

For this reason, hundreds of pilgrims visit her home each month, trying to comprehend the mystery of how even a "human vegetable" like her can serve God in a most dynamic way.

In addition, a number of cases of physical and spiritual healing have been recorded in Audrey's bedroom, plus a veritable anthology of religious phenomena, like weeping statues, the strong scent of roses, stigmata, and hosts that are suddenly stained with blood.

Through all this, Audrey remains still in her bed—well, not quite. It's been noticed that she has a strong affinity for priests. When they visit her and hold her hands, her grip becomes strong and she looks particularly happy.

What do pilgrims say about Audrey Santo? Some perceptive insights:

"She's a soul chosen by God for a specific purpose." "She sends out a statement on life in our culture of death." "She teaches us how to accept pain in our own lives."

"Priests are specially drawn to her because her suffering reminds them of Christ's passion." "Her suffering (she sometimes experiences extreme pain from noontime to 3 p.m.) can't be explained medically. It is her prayer for others."

"The spiritual phenomena associated with her, like the hosts with traces of blood, remind us of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist."

"Her example should teach us to also find meaning in our own suffering, and unite it with Christ's."

Repeat performance for 'Mitching de Abanse'

AFTER a smash opening at Music Museum last month, "Mitching de Abanse" returns to the same venue on June 17. Don't miss this chance to see **Mitch Valdes** at her best, sharing her thoughts not just on Philippine politics, but also on her own life, Filipinos' triumphs and foibles, colorful personalities on the entertainment scene, mammography tests, etc.

A lot of the show also has to do with Mitch's kind of music, love anthems from the '70s, as well as musical "experiments" that only Mitch can pull off. Call 891-5610.

Severino back on 'Probe'

AFTER a year in the States, **Howie Severino** has returned to "The Probe Team." His comeback contribution, "Postcards from America," consisted of stories on war veterans, young hip hop artists discovering their roots, and a musician who plays rock tunes on a *banduria*.

"Probe Team's" other reporters now include **Cheche Lazaro, Robert Alejandro, Love Añover, Jay Orense** and **Bernadette Sembrano**. The show airs Tusedays at 11 p.m. over GMA 7.

Out of her clothes and into the bold bandwagon

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

ASSUNTA de Rossi has also jumped into the sexy bandwagon and she is being pitted against **Rica Peralejo**, but the 18-year-old is not bothered by competition.

"Competition is something you have to learn to deal with if you want to survive in show biz," Assunta says. "If you let it affect you, your career will get nowhere. You just have to do your best."

Her younger sister, **Alessandra de Rossi**, has gone the sexy route, too, but there is no sibling rivalry between her and Assunta, the latter says.

"Whether we're at home, on TV or any public place, we are sisters who don't really let stardom go to our heads," Assunta says. "We talk about our careers and give each other advice, but neither one of us is envious of the other's career opportunities."

Since she entered show biz six years ago, Assunta had to learn to live away from Italy, where she grew up. Her mom and her dad also have to live away from each other.

"My mom stays with Alessandra and me here in Manila, while my dad lives with my two younger brothers who are studying in Italy," she says.

She has not returned to Italy since she left in 1994.

"Alessandra and I have helped our family buy our own house there," Assunta says. "The money came from our show biz earnings, that's why we don't regret having left at all. But the sad part is we miss our dad and our brothers."

A regular talent of GMA 7, where she appears in the sitcom "Beh Bote Nga" and the gag show "Bubble Gang," Assunta was recently signed up by the network to headline a four-episode special in "Larawan."

The four episodes are inspired by classic movies.

Assunta is expected to create a stir when her movie "Red Diaries" is shown. She exposes a breast in the movie, a first in her career.

DE ROSSI

Illegal use of Lea's song

AT THE recent Asian Development Bank's gala ceremony in Hawaii, one of the songs of **Lea Salonga** from her 1997 CD, "In Love," was used in a flashy audio-visual presentation for the more than 3,000 financial executives who were in attendance.

The multimillion-dollar meeting was the biggest gathering in Hawaii in years and was broadcast on TV and on the web.

However, Lea was reportedly not informed that her song was going to be used in the ADB corporate promotion. Her music outfit, BMG Records, which owns the copyright to the song, was not told either.

The Philippine delegation was led by Executive Secretary **Bert Romulo**, and included such prominent names as Hawaii Gov. **Ben Cayetano**.

The event would have been a showcase for a Filipino artist like Lea but she did not even benefit from the exposure.

To be used as the major talent in promoting a big body's image should be lucrative for an artist.

According to the legal requirements, permission of the performing artist must be obtained and the artist must be paid.

Although Lea doesn't really need the money, she should have been given credit for the use of her song.

Ironically, while the Philippines is being put on the watchlist by the United States for being a violator of intellectual property rights, one of the country's world-class artists is herself a victim of copyright violation by no less than the ADB, where the US is a major shareholder.

Is this a rip-off?

BMG Records Pilipinas artist and repertoire manager Vic Valenciano told the INQUIRER what ADB committed was illegal use of intellectual property. Lea's song was used for background music in the presentation, without permission or license.

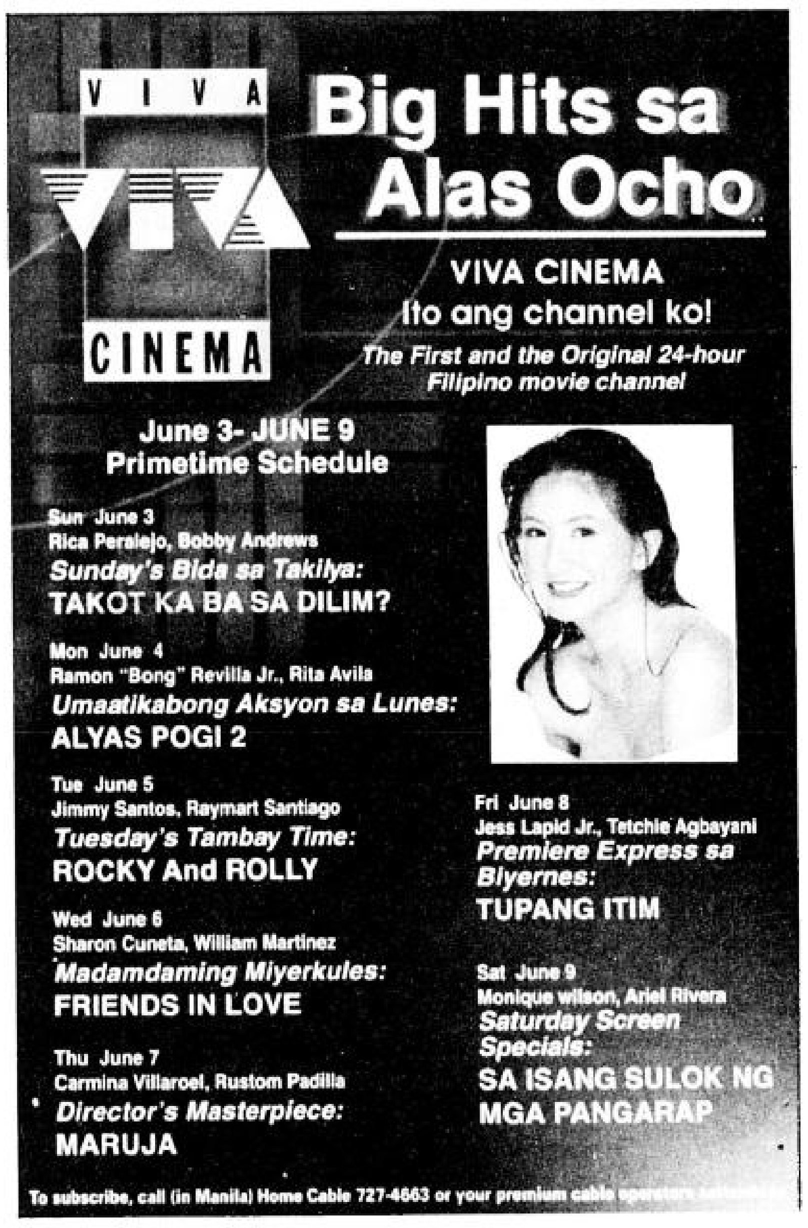
However, although ADB didn't reproduce the song for sale in CDs or cassettes, it should have at least sought permission from the recording outfit.

Valenciano said BMG Records has the right to claim compensation for the illegal use of Lea's song.

Out of Viva

COUNT **Zsa Zsa Padilla** out of the Viva Records lineup. Last Thursday, Zsa Zsa signed a two-album deal with the Premium Label of Star Records.

Her contract with Viva simply expired and she decided not to renew it. Star Records executives had been wooing her to join their stable of talents.



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'Kris and Tell' on TV starting June 4

AQUINO

KRIS Aquino, the reigning Queen of Talk and INQUIRER columnist, brings you the latest show biz news and features as she anchors "Kris and Tell," ABS-CBN's newest daily show biz talk show that starts airing tomorrow at 5 p.m.

A 30-minute collection of entertainment news, lifestyle features and in-depth interviews with the hottest local and international stars, "Kris and Tell" has Kris with her trademark verve giving her audiences the inside truth about the latest goings-on both on the silver screen and off.

If you've ever wondered what it would be like to shop or go to a spa with your favorite singer, or to go with your favorite actor as he traces the beginnings of his success, "Kris and Tell" is the show for you.

"Kris and Tell" is on every weekday afternoon.

Backroom babies busy with albums

BACKROOM artists cap the summer with albums from different recording outfits.

Ara Mina is in seventh heaven with the release of her second Star Records album aptly titled "Heavenly." The carrier single is the naughty ditty "Ooops . . . Teka Lang," which was used as the theme of the movie "Ooops Teka Lang . . . Diskarte Ko 'To" starring Robin Padilla and Claudine Barreto.

Dessa has just released a new album under the Premium Label of Star Records. The 12-cut album, "Respect," contains revivals like "Hey Look at the Sun," "Alone Again, Naturally," "Point of No Return," "Saan Ka Man Naroroon" and "Respect," plus originals like "Suffer Like This," "Mahal Kita," "Never Fall in Love Again," and "Love a Love."

It also includes "Noon Ngayon," a duet with Rannie Raymundo which was one of the finalists in the 2000 Metropop, and "No Less," which placed second in the 4th Asia Song Festival and gave Dessa the Best Interpreter Award. To promote the album, Dessa is doing a bar tour, including visits to Chatterbox West on June 6 and at Jeff's Café in Malate on June 28.

Comedy concert queen Ai-Ai de las Alas is still busy promoting her latest album from Concorde Records, "Shht . . . I Love You."

MINA

RIVERA

DESSA

Ariel Rivera is still promoting his new album from BMG Records, "Greatest Hits Album" which includes his biggest hits like "Minsan Lang Kita Iibigin," "Photograph," "Getting to Know," "Sana Kahit Minsan" and others, plus the original "Habang Buhay." BM Records has also released in VCD the videoke version of the album.

The teen singing group Kaya is promoting its second single, "I Know," and has been nominated in the New Artist Category in MTV Philippines' Video Music Awards for the video of their debut single "Oblivious," directed by Bobby Garcia.

Manilyn Reynes returns to the recording scene with a new album from Ivory Records with the carrier single "Minsan-Minsan." Manilyn will have special shows on June 9 in SM Bacoor, June 16 in SM Sucat, Parañaque, and June 24 in SM North Edsa.

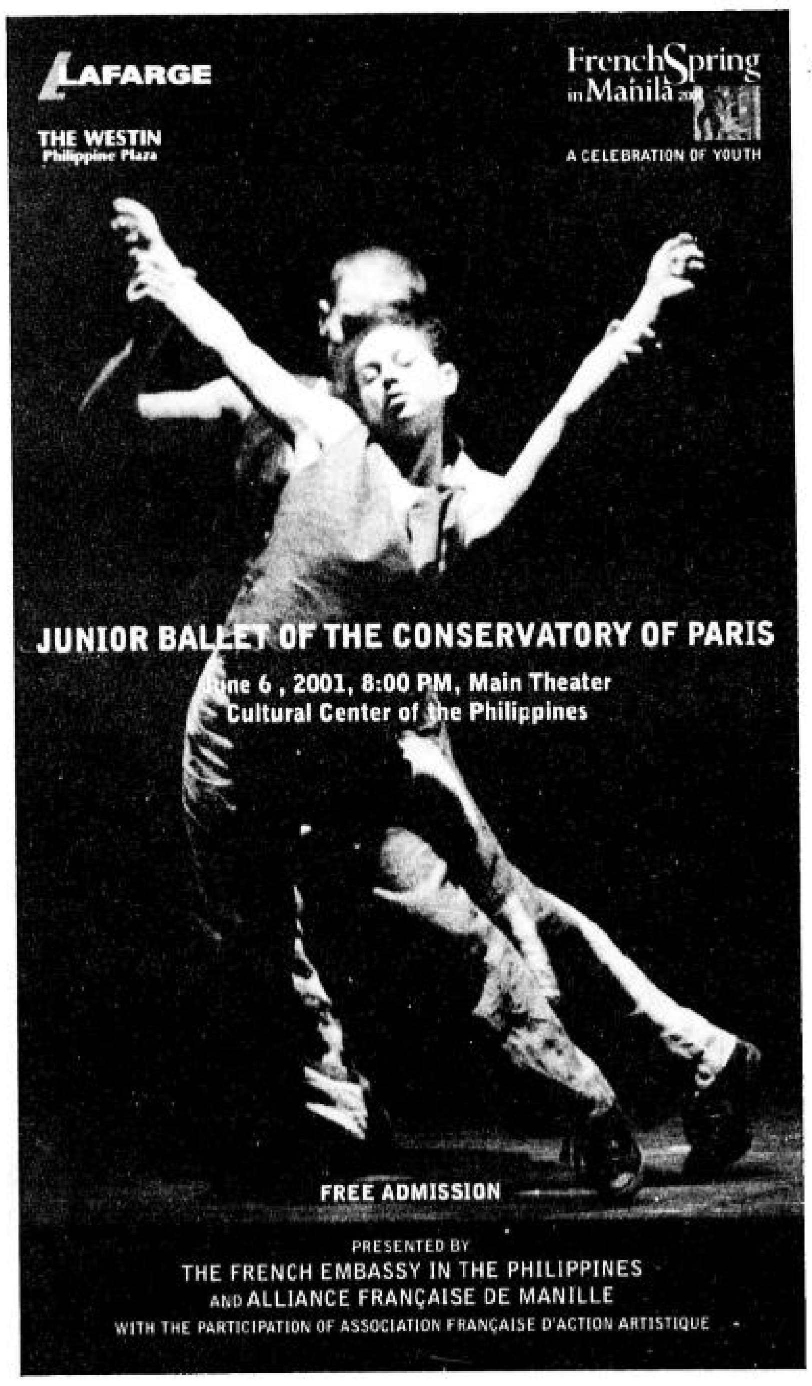
Nikki Valdez is busy promoting her self-titled debut album under the Istilo Records label of Star Records, whose carrier single, "Meron Ba," is still enjoying good air play.

The country's premiere vocal harmony group, The CompanY, will soon be coming out with the third part of their successful revival album series, "RecycleDeLuxe," also from.BMG Records.

The singing comedy group Gladys & the Boxers With K is busy wrapping up it debut album from Star Records.

Calvin Millado will soon be recording a new album for Viva Records.

For inquiries about these artists, call Backroom Inc. at 435-1120, 4351108,435-3808, 435-1098 or fax inquiries at 928-0717.



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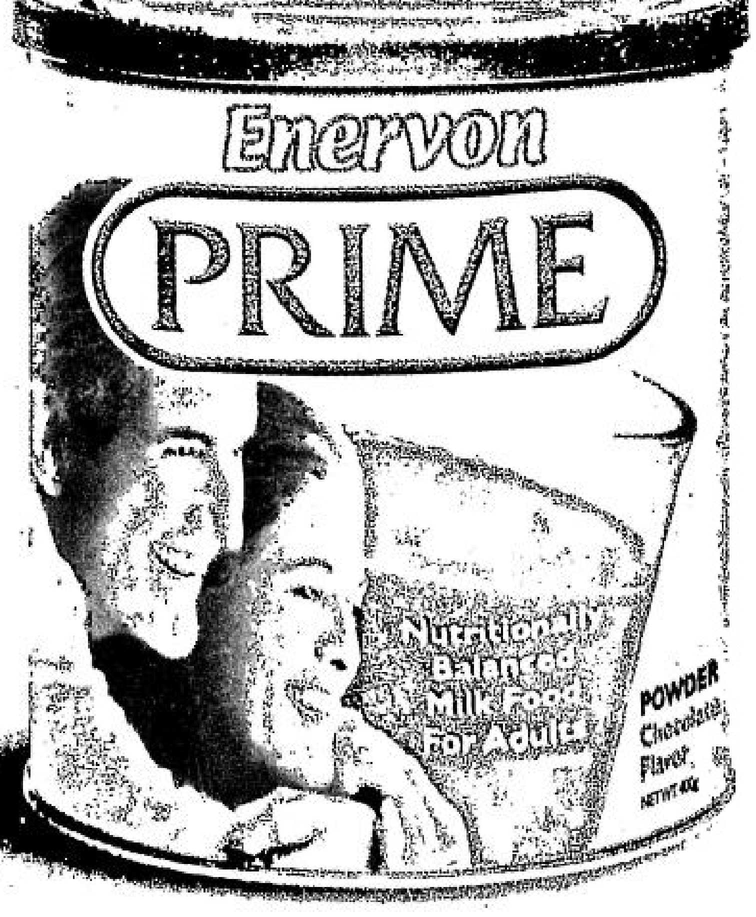
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SundayBIZ
RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

Bright boy opted for lowest paying job

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

WHILE many graduates bend over backwards just to get a job, Filemon T. Berba Jr. was cherry picking.

Multinational companies were lining up to entice the magna cum laude graduate of electrical engineering from the University of the Philippines with a grade point average of 1.39 to work for them. Some even tried to get his commitment even when he was still in school.

BERBA sells electric meters to electric plant operators circa: '60s.

MORE than 40 years later, Berba still has his hair and flair.

AS A service engineer, he worked at the Binga Dam powerhouse, 300 feet below ground.

With all the offers thrown his way, he could have chosen the highest paying job. But Berba, who graduated at the top of his class in 1959 and topped the board exams the same year, did just the opposite.

FIRST JOBS

He went to work for General Electric, who offered him the lowest pay of P150 a month, although it was still above the minimum wage at the time of about P120 a month.

"I wanted to get my hands dirty and really apply what I learned in school. I thought at the time that I should start my career in a job where I will really learn something. They paid me P150 at the time when Procter and Gamble was offering P365 a month," Berba tells the Inquirer.

He says multinational firms and oil companies were known as the highest-paying companies at the time.

Berba, who was 21 when he started working, says he was able to forego the higher pay at the time even if he came from a poor family in Batangas because life was good.

There were no major political and economic upheavals at the time. President Carlos P. Garcia was busy pushing his Filipino first policy, exports were growing and there was enough food to go around. Poverty was not as much of a problem as it is now.

"Even students at the UP were not very militant at the time because there was nothing to be militant about," Berba recalls.

Beatles music was heard everywhere. Berba says he was not fashion conscious but he did wear low waist jeans just like his batchmates Chief Justice Hilarion Davide and Senator Renato Cayetano. Girls, on the other hand, still wore petticoats at the time, perhaps even the feisty Solita Monsod who also graduated the same year.

Basic goods were relatively cheap, he adds. Almost everybody used public transportation with JD and MD Liners as the biggest bus companies at the time. His fare from Quiapo where he and his friends bummed around to UP was only 15 centavos.

For just P1 he can get a bowl of mami and a siopao at Ma Mon Luk. Movies at the Lyric and Capitol threaters also cost less than P1. Those were the days of cheap dates, he says.

Berba says he saved most of the money he got with his first paycheck from GE and within the first six months, he was able to buy a silver bracelet for his girlfriend Bobbie who became his wife.

"We got married when we were 23 and she still has that bracelet even if it is very thin. It cost me P180, more than a month's wages," Berba says.

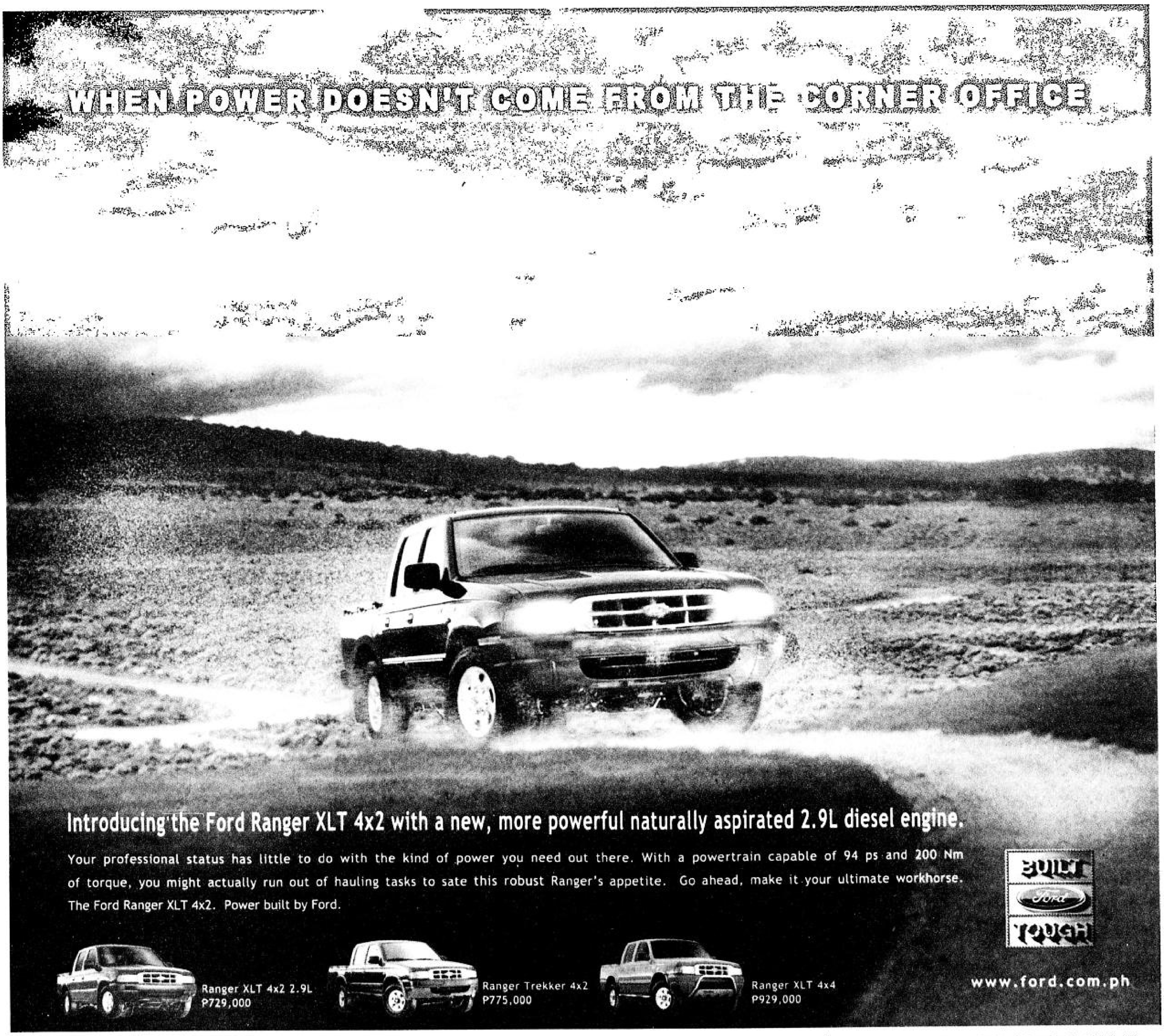
He worked for about two years before he left for the Wharton Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania for a scholarship. He finished in 1964 with a Master's Degree in Business Administration, with distinction, of course.

Armed with an MBA, it was one high paying job after another.

Consulting firm SGV got him first as a supervising consultant, for the management services decision. It was at this time when Berba finally got his first car—a second hand Renault.

For this veteran chief executive officer, who at one time was president of the Herdis Group, Westinghouse Asia Controls Corp., Philippine Electric Corp. and Globe Telecom GMCR Inc., looking back at his first days as a member of the labor force never fails to bring a smile on his face.

"When you are getting old, you relish reminiscing about the good old days. Looking back, you realize that the times you may have considered traumatic were actually the good days," he says.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Festival underlines longing to join ranks of world cities

FRANKFURT—It's hard to be a real city in Germany. Bombed flat in World War II, most boast neither the cobblestoned charm of Paris or Rome, nor the awe-inspiring loftiness of New York or Chicago.

But oft-maligned Frankfurt is unique in all of Europe for staking its claim as a cosmopolitan center on a chiseled skyline of mirror-skinned skyscrapers, or "cloud scratchers" as they're known in German.

Frankfurt likes to dub itself Mainhattan—a word play on Manhattan and the Main River that runs through the city. And the boast seems less desperate when considering the city has more skyscrapers over 200 meters than any other European city—including Europe's tallest, Commerzbank.

Proving its mettle as a true metropolis, Frankfurt plans to pump up its skyline with 15 new skyscrapers over the next 10 years.

Even flamboyant real estate mogul Donald Trump has caught Frankfurt's high-rise fever, announcing interest earlier this year in building the city's tallest tower.

To demonstrate their love for modern high-rises, Frankfurters opened the elevator banks to the public during its third Skyscraper Fest in May, meant to instill pride in a city often overshadowed by the commercial centers of London and the hip style of Berlin.

"When I take off in an airplane from New York, and I look down at all the skyscrapers, a tear comes to my eye because they are so spectacular," said Dominik Kuhn, spokesperson for the radio station sponsoring this year's high-rise blowout. "And Frankfurt has that, too. It's very sexy."

Despite Frankfurt's imposing collection of 12 buildings over 100 meters tall, it's a far cry from New York.

Frankfurt has only 600,000 inhabitants in comparison to New York's 8 million. And the Commerzbank tower, Europe's tallest building at 258 meters, wouldn't even break into the US top 25.

That shortcoming wasn't lost on some of the roughly 80,000 gawkers who toured to the top of Frankfurt's tallest, the third Skyscraper Fest since the tradition began in 1996.

"They have a bad case of metro envy," said Aric Parnes, a 30-year-old US tourist, as he gazed over the twisting streets of Frankfurt from the 115-meter Japan Center.

Food & Trade Expo set

EVEN in times of crisis, the only industry that seems to continually grow is the food industry. With the recent changes in the political and economic climate in the country, there are many expectations that the year 2001 would be much better. Business has a renewed optimism and opportunities abound. One such opportunity is the World's Food & Trade Expo 2001.

The Expo will include foreign and local companies involved in relevant products such as baked products, beverages, canned goods, chocolates, cookies and biscuits, dairy products, frozen/processed meats, kitchenware, equipment, machinery and other allied products. By bringing together under one roof the many different types of food and beverages, it offers excellent opportunity to see and be seen by the general public.

There are a lot of business opportunities arising from this grand event. Visitors will be given the chance to look for suppliers, for the newest and latest equipment available, and other investment opportunities. Within the. exhibitors themselves is much business opportunities. They can find expansion and upgrading possibilities for companies dealing with the consumer products. They can also have linkages with the companies joining the said event.

In most cases, failure of business is simply because hardly anybody knows that they exist. The Expo with its theme "Serving you the world" will bring consciousness of the company's existence, of its products and services. This will be held on August 3-5, 2001 at the World Trade Center, CCP complex Roxas Blvd, Manila. For more information, please call Premier Events Plus Group Inc. (PEPGI) at 4364711-12,4364897. 4364898 (fax). or through e-mail at info@worldsfoodexpo.com with address at unit 203-A Golden Legacy Bldg., #90 Xavierville Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Lawyers weave stories that spell life, liberty or death

"Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury"
Michael Lief, H. Mitchell Caldwell & Ben Bycel Simon & Schuster (Touchstone Edition), 2000

By Dante M. Velasco

THE IMPEACHMENT proceedings against former President Joseph Estrada gave us a ringside view of how lawyers argue, refute or prove a point—and even how they fumble, grope for words and commit verbal slips (like that atrocious mispronunciation of "your witness," if you know what I mean).

We applauded when irrepressible Joker Arroyo reminded a distinguished senator that, as a matter of policy, he did not relish arguing with non-lawyers. Was it an act of kindness, implying that Joker wanted to spare the "uninitiated" the weapon only lawyers know that would surely demolish the poor guy? Was it intellectual hubris?

We had grudging respect (although short-lived) for one defense lawyer with his effective (not brilliant, as others put it) use of rhetoric and storytelling to buttress his case. This same lawyer always found himself on the wrong side of justice or political fence, and we were not impressed.

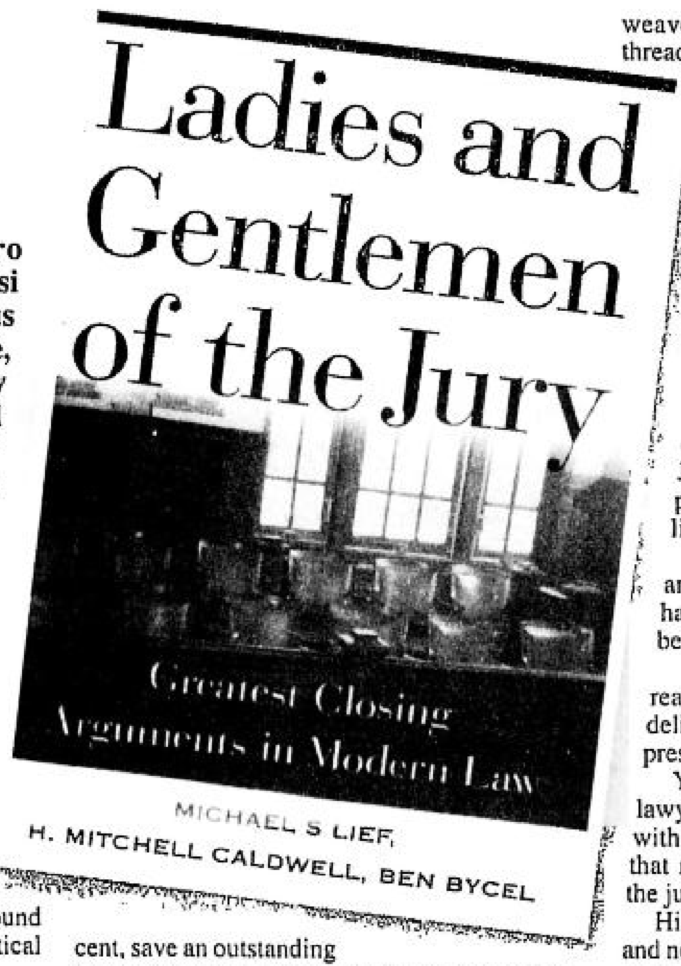
As we watched and listened to these legal gladiators, we asked: Have they really been gifted with an extraordinary ability for logic, and woe to those who dare cross their paths? Do lawyers always argue till we all faint in boredom or sheer exhaustion?

I have good news for you. Not all lawyers go into fits arguing endlessly or into scoring debating points without let up. Some of them tell inspiring stories that touch our hearts, move us to tears, and stir in us something true and noble.

Or they give us gripping narratives that awaken our commitment to justice and jolt us into the realization that if good men do nothing, as the saying goes, evil will triumph.

The book, "Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury," will make us and our children fall in love again with the legal profession.

In the book, subtitled "Greatest Closing Arguments in Modern Law," ten masterpieces of outstanding lawyers moved juries and tribunals to send criminals to the gallows, free the innocent, save an outstanding lawyer from the ignominy of disbarment, bring justice to a defenseless victim, uphold crusading Davids and bring down haughty Goliaths.


Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury
Greatest Closing Arguments in Modern Law
MICHAEL S LIEF,
H. MITCHELL CALDWELL, BEN BYCEL

The book starts with the moving account on how a multi-country tribunal tried and judged the Nazi criminals. Read it, and you will come away thanking God that there are indeed lawyers—who may argue from legal points—but who win the case because they give a heart-wrenching or soul-stirring narrative about the unrelenting quest of the human heart for what is right and what is just.

The book is not only a collection of outstanding summation pieces; it gives readers a background for every piece, including a short biography of every featured legal luminary. The reader, therefore, understands the piece even more and places it within its historical context.

What emerges, though, is one compelling truth. The world has not changed. There are lawyers who twist or conceal the truth, or who conceal lies under the tapestry of truth.

And there are lawyers, thank God, "who weave throughout their closing arguments a thread of justice and righteous conviction"—and who therefore catch these liars in the ignoble act of lying.

This is a heartwarming book. Instead of cold legal points, we read masterpieces in rhetoric, facts woven into a moving story, and legal points subsumed in the higher laws that non-lawyers can understand.

Read the summation of Chief Prosecutor Robert H. Jackson who filed charges against Adolf Hitler's fellow architects of genocide. After being appalled by the enormity of their crimes and the ferocity of their campaigns, be inspired by Jackson's assertion that justice be done, appropriately couched in these concluding lines:

"If you were to say of these men that they are not guilty, it would be as true to say there has been no war, there are no slain, there has been no crime."

(How we wish our Ombudsman would read up on Jackson and, in due time, finally deliver the same lines on a celebrated case of presidential plunder, whatever the verdict!)

You will read the piece of legendary trial lawyer Clarence Darrow who was threatened with disbarment due to jury tampering (a term that refers to an attempt to bribe or influence the jury).

His spirited defense is instructive for lawyers and non-lawyers about sidestepping weak points and concentrating on strong points. You have to read the book to know if he acquitted himself well.

The summation of lady lawyer Clara Shortridge Foltz is a must-read for the women's movement. She fought all her life to allow women to have the right to be lawyers and to have legal education.

Remember Gerry Spence, who had the fame or notoriety of defending Imelda Marcos? You will understand why he won—with that "bird in the hand" analogy—with his "mesmerizing summation."

This book gives the reader a ringside view of history in courtroom drama and storytelling at its finest—with a difference: "There is one vital difference between yesterday's storytellers and today's advocates," the authors say.

"Where the bard sat at the foot of the king and entertained, the lawyers' storytelling has the power to put evil men to death, to free the innocent, and to make whole the injured." Take a bow, attorneys at law! (dantemv@I-next.net)

THE BOARDROOM equipped with conference facilities is a good venue for private meetings.

A STANDARD room at the Herald Suites costs $70 a night, and $85 for double occupancy.

THE MEETING Room located at the ground floor, is available for small conferences and private gatherings.

Boutique hotel targets no-fuss business travelers

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

MANY business travelers who come to the Philippines want only the basics from their hotels. They want a safe hotel, clean rooms, good and affordable food and basic office equipment like Internet access and copiers.

Herald Suites, a four-year-old boutique hotel along Pasong Tamo in Makati City, tries to be the hotel of choice of these no-fuss business travelers who want the basics and none of the frills, which simply add to the costs.

Nicanor P. Padilla III, owner and president of Herald Suites, says in a talk with SundayBiz that there is a big segment of the business traveler group that does not go for big lobbies, luxurious amenities and a wide choice of restaurants offered by the big hotel chains.

These are the travelers, he says, who stay in the country for an average of four nights and five days, leave the hotel to work just after breakfast and then come back late in the evenings.

"These travelers are here mainly for business and not for pleasure which is why they don't need many of the facilities offered by bigger hotels. We cater to that market," Padilla says.

The Herald Suites, for instance, does not have a gym, sauna or even a swimming pool. The 60-room hotel, however, has a meeting room, a boardroom for private meetings with conference facilities, a small business center and two restaurants where guests can enjoy quiet meals.

The 54 rooms and six junior suites done in tropical colors have coffee- and tea-making facilities, mini-bar and refrigerator, TV, telephones with voice mail facility and personal safes.

The business center, on the other hand, provides essential services such as e-mail and Internet, facsimile service for local and worldwide transmission, photocopying, courier service, parcel and mailing.

Herald Suites also did not skimp on the ambiance. The narra moldings and ceilings mixed with yellow, green and mauve machuka tiles exude a warm and cozy atmosphere.

"We take pride in having a small operation. We purposely kept it that way because we want to provide our clients with personalized service. This is very hard to do for the big hotels with over 200 guests, but it is easier for us because we have only 60 rooms. Our employees get to know our guests by name," Padilla says.

Padilla discloses that over 95 percent of its guests are Japanese and they make full use of the hotel's meeting rooms that can accommodate up to 20 guests. He says the steady stream of Japanese businessmen helped keep the occupancy levels up despite the political and economic upheavals.

"I would say that we managed to do very well despite the crisis because of our focused marketing efforts. We have developed a niche market because of our attention to personalized service and in providing only the basics," Padilla says.

Herald Suites, however, is far from being cheap. A standard room goes for $70 and $85 for double occupancy. A junior suite, on the other hand, costs $115 a night.

"We are certainly not the cheapest but we are also not too expensive because we only provide the basics. We provide value for money to our guests. They get what they pay for," Padilla says.

HERALD Suites used a lot of narra moldings to exude a warm and cozy atmosphere.

HERALD Suites caters to corporate travelers who are here for business, not pleasure.

THE HOTEL'S business center provides basic office equipment like a fax, Internet access and a conference room.

Career person's goal: Live a balanced life

By Vicente R. Ayllon

A LINE from the advertisement of a leading cell phone company goes like this: "Today's life is full of complexities; but at the heart of it is our desire to stay connected to the people we need and love."

Indeed, one of the biggest paradoxes of our times is the fact that even as technology continually churns out discoveries that are supposed to make our lives simpler and easier, life itself gets more and more complicated. Relationships get more and more complex and become more at risk of disintegrating.

Amidst the pressures of life in the 21st century, people experience that need to stay connected, not only with people they love but also with their inner selves and to the things that really matter.

One of the most powerful questions ever asked of modern man is this: How many people on their deathbed wished they had spent more time with their families? Oftentimes, without our realizing it, our work dominates our waking time and defines the roles and relationships we enter into. We then use up all our time and energy in this direction, and at the end of the day, there is no more energy left to experience other roles that make living truly joyful.

This is not to say that work is not important, because it is. It is the means by which we can acquire our basic necessities and comforts. And work, as a vocation, becomes a way by which we serve others. But when taken to the extreme, when we become enslaved by our work, we miss out on the other roles and relationships that enrich our lives.

To live joyfully is to have a balanced life and to achieve balance in our life is to perform our various roles reasonably well. A balanced life, therefore, is the goal of every career person of the 21st century.

And yet, not surprisingly, it is oftentimes an elusive goal. Inevitably, the quest for balance goes back to an inflexible commodity—time. How, you may ask, can I find enough time to do everything I have to do to live a balanced life? How, when my family is growing and their demands on my time and attention are growing? When my product on goal gets bigger year after year? When my client base is growing? When my circle of friends is growing? When the traffic situation is worsening, and the Filipino's standard of living is not improving due to economic uncertainty?

Truly, it is a big challenge but not impossible. In the end it is about setting of priorities—knowing what is most important to us and making sure they come first in our lives.

And when we do, we realize to our pleasant surprise that we can do so much more because we have taken care of the basic things. This is what synergy is all about—making all the important parts and pieces of our lives complement one another so that the end result is greater than the sum of all these parts.

What comprises a balanced life? Generally, we will find that a balanced life has to address four levels of needs that are basic to human fulfillment.

On the first level you have the physical, our need for food, clothing, shelter, and good health and economic well-being.

On the next level we have the social need, and this pertains to our need to love, to be loved, to relate to other human beings and to be part of a community.

THE AUTHOR: How many people on their deathbed wished they had spent more time with their families?

On the third level, we have the mental aspect, our need to grow and to constantly learn new things and acquire new skills.

On the fourth level, we have the spiritual need that is to have a purpose in life other than just living for one's self or one's family, and to make a contribution to the larger society.

All of these needs are equally important. If any one of them is unmet, a person will not have a balanced life. These needs are also deeply interrelated. You cannot pursue one independently of the others.

Another case is the perpetual tug-of-war between the home and the career, especially experienced by working mothers. There is no question that parenting is one of the most important, if not the most important, role a person can have.

We all know that as parents, we are everything to our children. Our presence in their birthday parties, their school programs and other milestones, our words of love and encouragement, are forever etched in their hearts, a source of confidence and security for them as they grow up.

And yet many times, because of demands of work, we miss out on the many opportunities to enjoy family life, to witness the major milestones of our children's lives as well as the ordinary, everyday events happening to them.

According to a recent study, the key to keeping our work performance at constantly high levels is to know how to recover the energy spent in work. And one way to recover energy is to experience these close family moments.

One's spirits are recharged upon knowing he or she has fulfilled his or her parenting role very well. Unfortunately, many still believe that to meet expectations at work, they have to make a choice between the home and career.

That is not so, as being a good parent enhances one's effectiveness in his or her work.

Another life's nobility is friendship. The regular person at all stages of his life always has a best friend, from the time he is in kindergarten, to grade school, high school, college and eventually, at work. It is part of our nature.

Each of us is always a friend to someone. Time with friends renews our minds. They are like a breath of fresh air that relieves the monotony of professional relationships. And true friendships also enhance our effectiveness at work and at home.

And finally, we must not lose sight of our spiritual goals. Sometimes in our desire to fulfill personal goals, we lose track of our roles in the larger society. Yet, we cannot exist apart from it. We affect society just as we are affected by it. We take from society. We are beneficiaries of the good that society offers. It is only fair that we give something to it in return. We must help create the society we want to live in.

Many of our top agents, who are among the busiest people in the industry, are deeply involved in very laudable causes. Every so often I would get a request for support for some project, and I am very proud of these people who, despite their busy schedules, could still find time to care for our less privileged countrymen.

Amidst their family, career and business concerns, they have truly rounded up their lives with their social involvement. Our participation in the building of a just and progressive civil society is as essential a role as all our other roles.

Whether in supporting environment causes, movements for good government, livelihood and poverty alleviation, or disaster relief, there are many opportunities for us to get involved and we would all be better career persons, better family members and better friends if we would fulfill this role effectively as well.

To really discover the beauty of life, we have to go beyond our own selves, beyond our work, beyond what we think we already know. Let us give to our relationships and roles the same passion we give to our work.

Spend real time with your spouses and your parents, play with your kids and laugh with your friends; lend a hand. Smell the roses and watch a sunset and you will have all the energy you need to reach your various goals.

One of the most striking passages from the Bible is the passage from one of the Gospels that says, "to those who have, more shall be given. But to those who do not have, even the little they have shall be taken away."

At first glance, it may sound like a very heartless statement, but our Lord could never be wrong. Because, indeed, for those people who have the wisdom to know the things that matter, and the resourcefulness and commitment to go after them, they shall be amply rewarded with success and fulfillment.

But for those who are forever griping about their seeming limitations and grappling with their priorities, then even the precious few resources they may have could get lost or be wasted away.

Remember, you do not have to choose "either or." You do not have to choose between family and friends, between home and career, between personal goals and social involvement. All you have to do is to know what are the big rocks in your life and put all of them at the center and you will discover that all the other things will fall neatly into place.

I'd like to close with a very inspiring quote from one of the greatest statesmen of all time, Sir Winston Churchill. He said: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." *(Vicente R. Ayllon is chair and president of Insular Life Assurance Co. Ltd. This is based on a speech he delivered at an insurance forum.)*

After five years, Australian IT exec becomes Filipino at heart

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

WHEN Australian Darren J. Rushworth first arrived in the Philippines in March 1996, the driver of the taxi he rode in asked him if he wanted to go sightseeing. Being the naïve and trusting person he was at 29 years old, he said yes and was immediately whisked away.

No, his driver did not bring him to Luneta or Intramuros, but all the way to Batangas! He showed him around and he even got to see a cockfight and drink lambanog, a fiery local brew that he says "can definitely strip off paint."

He has sworn off lambanog, and he was scolded for going off on his own by his colleagues at Oracle Philippines Inc. But for him, it was his first taste of Filipino hospitality and he has been addicted since then.

It was, however, far from being love at first sight.

"My first four months were awful. I did not have any friends and I had nothing to do during weekends. I went to the mall almost every week and after a while I got fed up," Rushworth says.

Slowly but surely he made friends with Filipinos and expatriates alike during the first year of his stint with Oracle Philippines where he was in involved in sales. However, it was when he was asked to handle Oracle's Education Initiatives for Asia Pacific that he got the unique chance to go around the country and get to know really good people.

OAI program

The OAI started a month after Oracle president Larry Ellison signed an agreement with President Ramos on November 1997 wherein Oracle pledged to donate $1.5M for the development of IT education in the Philippines.

The Philippines was the first country after the United States to be benefited by this outreach program which was one way for Oracle to give something back to the Philippines which has been a good market for Oracle's products.

He admits that he was daunted by the challenge to set up the program in the Philippines since he had to do everything himself. He also had to deal with the government and with the heads of universities and colleges nationwide. He had to make sure that he would make the right choice since it involved a lot of time and money.

Rushworth sought the help of the Commission on Higher Education to narrow down the choices since there were just too many schools in the country. In the end, Oracle involved 15 schools (at least one per region), chosen from a pool of 2,300 universities and colleges nationwide.

"I think we are the only company who did anything of this magnitude. Oracle spent about 40 days for training per region and there were two teachers per region. We provided all the materials and the software. We brought them here by plane in two or three sessions, we put them in hotels and we also gave them a per diem," Rushworth says.

RUSHWORTH with one of the students in the OAI program

Oracle spent over $100,000 for the flights and accommodations alone.

It was a logistical nightmare but the enthusiasm shown by the teachers and the students who participated in Oracle's program was enough compensation. He proudly says that the teachers who participated in Oracle's training scored the highest in the exams among Oracle's thousands of trainees.

"The schools we chose were not exactly the ones that CHED considered centers of excellence but Oracle chose them because we were a little bit more flexible. We chose schools with potential and whose graduates are willing to learn and undergo training under Oracle," Rushworth says.

Funny experiences

It took Oracle and Rushworth three years to complete the program in the Philippines and he says he had his share of funny and touching experiences because he had to travel personally to places way out of the beaten path.

He has been to Bicol, Zamboanga, Pampanga and Tacloban and to the urban centers outside Metro Manila such as Cebu and Davao. It was during these trips, he says, that he learned that the Philippines is not just the capital. It is almost like having two different countries, he says.

The best thing about it all, he says, is the hospitality of the Filipinos, which was evident in all the places he has been to. They were too nice, he says, that he sometimes felt quite embarrassed and at the same time flattered by the "royal treatment" he got.

"There was even one time when the mayor himself got up to the plane and gave me flowers. When I went down, there were streamers to welcome me complete with a band," Rushworth says.

In Pampanga, he was even got invited to give graduation speeches whether for high school, college or even gradeschool students.

Such treatment is alien to him since he comes from Australia, which is basically a classless society where people called each other by their first names, even the Prime Minister. It was quite a feeling, he says, to get something close to the red carpet treatment.

Being a foreigner traveling on various remote provinces, however, was not fun all the time. For instance, he had to bear being stared at all the time since some provinces were so remote that foreigners are rare.

"Now I know what it feels like to be an animal in a zoo," Rushworth says.

Aside from that, he sometimes felt uncomfortable because of the lengths some people had to go to just to accommodate him.

Rushworth says they may have taken great pains to make him feel at home because they were just grateful for the program that Oracle provided. He stresses that many of these colleges have not received any help from a major multinational firm before. These were the ones that were most willing to learn.

"We observed that these teachers were really willing to learn and in turn, impart what they learned to their students," he says.

Of the more than 30,000 students who have benefited from the program, Rushworth is happy to know that the Oracle training helped them land very good jobs.

Five years

His first few months in the country may have passed very slowly for Rushworth but the last few years just flew past and he had a lot of fun along the way.

Rushworth has grown accustomed to Filipino food, especially kilawin from Cebu. He now understands at least 60 percent of the Filipino language and he has made a lot of friends, especially his fellow members of the Mad Dog Motorcycle Club. The nightlife, he adds, is also incomparable.

He likes it here so much that he made the Philippines his base for the Asia-Pacific operations. He flies in and out as part of his responsibilities to roll out the Oracle Academic Initiative program in 15 other countries in the region, involving over 50,000 students.

"I love it here. Many of my Filipino friends say that I have become more Filipino than they are," Rushworth says. ***With a report from Amelita Remo***

Step into your future British home made of straw

LONDON—Imagine building a house with straw, using a deodorant made out of wheat or laundering your clothes with washing powder derived from cereals.

In some cases it's happened and in others the future could be that strange, if researchers and campaigners have their way.

With "natural" becoming the buzzword for cosmetics and skin care, biodegradable becoming a sought-after alternative to environmentally damaging chemicals and the world searching for new energy resources, researchers have gone back to nature.

They say that wheat, maize, rapeseed and starch from crops, which could provide a rich resource of materials for a whole range of products, applications and uses that do not hurt the environment, are kind to the skin and good to the health.

"It is a massive area. Non-food uses for crops range from specialist materials to pharmaceuticals to bio-energy to bio-gas and so on," said Ray Marriott, managing director of Botanix and member of a government-industry forum aiming to encourage the development of non-food uses for traditional crops.

"It is a very hard question to answer at the moment (which product area will be most successful); we are too early in our deliberations, but this is what the government-industry forum has been set up to find out—where the real opportunities for UK agriculture are."

It could be in the use of wheat straw in construction materials, starch in skin care, cosmetic products and detergents; maize as an alternative to fossil fuel; or in the development of plant-derived vaccines.

Some critics argue that Britain has been left behind as other European countries and the United States forge ahead with projects to produce bio-ethanol and bio-diesel and with the production of starch for many uses.

But now Britain has started to play catch up.

Back to nature

"The reason they went away from (crops) in the first place was that there were cheaper alternatives and people didn't realize the environmental or health implications," said Ian Bartle, chief executive of Alternative Crops Technology Interaction Network (Actin).

"(The old resources) are still very cost competitive so it is only the very forward looking companies that are making the change. There are quite considerable costs...so to change over to natural, fairly variable, raw material is quite a challenge."

Companies might have to change their machinery needed to process the raw materials, and crops can be variable-dependent on the weather and soil types for their growth and quality, and can be harvested only once or twice a year, he said.

"So the challenge is to turn a variable product into a uniform material as a feed stock for industry," Bartle said, adding that in some industries the room for growth for crops over the next 10 years was good.

Surfactants—a substance that reduces surface tension— made from grain starches could be a big hit in the detergent, and skin and hair care industries.

The market already uses 2.3 million tons of surfactants, 460,000 of which are from renewable sources, and researchers say that the number could double over 10 years.

"The general public is really very keen to move away from chemicals to more natural products. This is an area where there could be significant market pull," Bartle said.

Farmers, whose crops have declined steadily in value over years, said they would be ready to meet the challenge—but there would have to be some incentive.

Ready for the challenge

Richard Butler, chairman of the cereals committee at the National Farmers' Union, said farmers would welcome new uses for their crops.

"We face the prospects of static or declining markets for our produce, we are producing wheat on a larger area and we are going to achieve bigger yields...The combination of these factors will result in a very depressed market for UK wheat producers," he told a recent conference run by Actin.

Reuters

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- ➢ Must have strong leadership and interpersonal skills with proven integrity. trustworthiness and great sense of responsibility.
- ➢ You have a strong character and mature disposition to effectively deal with the rest of the organization and top management.

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Reference code: SEFB

Sales Engineer Water & Wastewater

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Background/Experience:

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Reference code: SEWW

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idicating the Reference code in their application, by post or fax on or before June 16, 2001:

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Oxfam

Oxfam Great Britain, an International NGO, is looking for the following to work in its Philippines office based in Quezon City

Job Title **Assets and Markets Programme Coordinator**
Based : Metro Manila, the Philippines
Contract : One year

Oxfam Great Britain in the Philippines has a long history of promoting basic rights and sustainable livelihoods amongst vulnerable communities in the Philippines. Oxfam's latest strategy focuses its work on asset reform and market access for poor communities. The challenge for the post-holder is to shape the transition of Oxfam's programmes into a more focused set of sustainable livelihood activities that contribute to wider policy and practice changes at national and international levels, as Oxfam's Philippine programme contributes to a global Oxfam campaign on trade.

To meet this challenge, Oxfam is looking for a dynamic Programme Coordinator who has the capacity to lead an experienced team, make strategic programme development choices, and enhance the overall impact of our work in sustainable livelihoods.

Key Competencies:

- Significant work and management experience in the field of development, preferably in sustainable livelihoods, economics or trade and a demonstrated understanding of participatory development approaches
- Experience in developing and managing changes in programme directions and teams, in line with organisational priorities
- Excellent leadership abilities and experience of developing individuals and teams
- Proven capacity to manage budgets and to comply with funding criteria including programme reporting
- Demonstrated capacity in the areas of knowledge management, conceptual and analytical thinking, achieving results, implementing policy advocacy and campaign strategies
- Experience in representing an organisation in major external negotiations
- Excellent inter-personal awareness, and verbal / written communication skills in English
- Proven experience of and commitment to promoting gender equity in all aspects of work
- Willingness to travel (minimum of 20% of time) for extended periods and to remote areas

Highly Desirable:

- Capacity in fundraising
- Capacity in external communication planning, strategising and implementation
- Knowledge of local language

Job Title : **Education Programme Officer**
Based : Metro Manila, the Philippines
Contract : One year

Oxfam Great Britain in the Philippines has recently expanded into basic social services, focusing on ensuring access to quality basic education especially for excluded and marginalised groups. The challenge for the post-holder is to further develop, implement monitoring and evaluate the organisation's education programme so that this contributes to wider policy and practice changes at national and international levels. Oxfam's Philippine programme contributes to a global Oxfam campaign on education reform.

To meet this challenge, Oxfam is looking for a dynamic Programme Officer who has the capacity to make strategic programme development choices and develop and implement policy advocacy and campaigns.

Key Competencies:

- Significant work and management experience in the field of development, preferably in education and a demonstrated understanding of participatory development approaches
- Experience in developing and managing changes in programme directions and teams, in line with organisational priorities
- Excellent leadership abilities and experience of developing individuals and teams
- Proven capacity to manage budgets and to comply with funding criteria including programme reporting
- Demonstrated capacity in the areas of knowledge management, conceptual and analytical thinking, achieving results, implementing policy advocacy and campaign strategies
- Experience in representing an organisation in major external negotiations
- Excellent inter-personal awareness, and verbal / written communication skills in English
- Proven experience of and commitment to promoting gender equity in all aspects of work
- Willingness to travel (minimum of 20% of time) for extended periods and to remote areas

Highly Desirable:

- Capacity in fundraising
- Capacity in external communication planning, strategising and implementation
- Knowledge of local language

Closing date : 29 June 2001
Interview date : to be confirmed (only shortlisted candidates will be advised)

Please submit application letter with complete CV quoting above reference and job title to the Programme Representative for the Philippines

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE

LOCATION	AREA (Sq.m.)	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
ALBAY			
· Brgy. Morera (formerly Binagsacan) Guinobatan	342	Res'l lot w/ imp.	550,000
· Interior Peñaranda St., Legaspi city	2,075	Residential lot	820,000
BATANGAS			
· (3 lots) Brgy. Balaytigue, Nasugbu	135,000	Agricultural lots	65,000,000
· (124 lots) Brgy. Cahil, Calaca	269,835	Residential lots	180,000,000
· (7 lots) National Road, Brgy. Banga, Talisay	29,992	Agricultural lots	52,000,000
BULACAN			
· (2 lots) Brgy. Ulingao, San Rafael	140,808	Agricultural lots	10,600,000
BUTUAN			
· (24 adj. lots) Luz Village Bayanihan 27	14,268	Residential lots	12,300,000
· 904A San Vicental cor. Durano Golden Ribbon	1,078	Residential lot	2,000,000
CAGAYAN DE ORO			
· (2 lots) Brgy. Kauswagan	10,000	Res'l / Comm'l lots	20,000,000
· Mabini corner Capistrano	1,239	Comm'l w/ imp.	20,000,000
· Sitio Cala-anan, Brgy. Canitoan	8,267	Res'l / agricultural lot	1,000,000
CALOOCAN			
· (44 lots with areas ranging from 216-426 sq.m.) Rainbow Village V. Brgy. Bagumbong	10,892	Residential lots	Cor. lot-3,400 /sq.m. Regular lot-3,200 /sq.m.
CAPIZ/AKLAN			
· New Busuang, Kalibo, Aklan	3,000	Agricultural lot	700,000
· Washington St., Roxas City	1,142	Res'l w/ imp.	3,450,000
· Washington St., Roxas City	1,142	Res'l w/ imp.	3,600,000
CAVITE			
· Brgy. Olaes, General Mariano Alvarez	26,284	Industrial lot	1,000/sq.m.
CEBU			
· Quezon Blvd. cor. 2nd St., Cebu Int'l Port Area, Cebu City	2,000	Commercial lot	16,000,000
DAGUPAN CITY			
· (2 lots) Salisay District, Dagupan City	600	Agricultural lots	30,000
DAVAO			
· (17 lots) Bello Subd., Purok Santol, La Filipina, Tagum City	5,767	Res'l / Agicultural lot	900,000
· Bunawan District	1,433	Residential lot	1,200,000
· Espino Subd., Dumoy, Davao City	500	Residential lot	300,000
· (6 lots) Fernandez Subd., Brgy. Ulas	2,796	Residential lots	500,000
· Greenhills Subd., Catalunan Pequeño	378	Residential lot	350,000
· (2 lots) Mamay St., Diamond Vill 1 Bo. Lanang, Davao City	1,000	Residential lots	2,000,000
· (2 lots) Sambalilo St., Lanzona Subd., Matina	960	Residential lots	1,700,000
· Sitio Awa Brgy. Catalunan Grande Talomo District	1,000	Residential lot	400,000
· Vermillion St., Spring Village Bo. Ma-a Talomo	325	Residential lot	350,000
· (2 lots) Villarica Subd., Zone 6, Poblacion Babac, Samal City	693	Residential lots	350,000
ISABELA			
· (11 lots) Brgy. Sto. Domingo, Alicia, Isabela	9,999	Residential lots	300,000
· F. Dy St., District I, Poblacion, Cauayan, Isabela	805	Residential lot	2,200,000
· (10 lots) Interior Minante Uno, Cauayan, Isabela	3,541	Residential lot	110,000
San Fermin, Cauayan, Isabela	427	Residential lot	600,000
· San Lorenzo Ruiz St., Purok Rose, Brgy. Caloocan, Alicia	762	Residential lot	400,000
LAS PIÑAS			
· (5 lots) BF Pilar Executive Village Phase VI, Las Piñas	3,240	Residential lots	5,000 /sq.m.
· Moscow BF Homes VI-I A Brgy. Tungtong	428	Residential lot	6,500 /sq.m.
Moscow BF Homes VI-I A Brgy. Tungtong	293	Residential lot	7,000 /sq.m
· Venice St., BF Homes Phase IV-I-A, Brgy. Tungtong	670	Residential lot	7,000 /sq.m
LEYTE			
- Baybay Brgy. 89 San Jose, Tacloban	2,687	Residential lot	1,400,000
· Bo. Sangkalan Pob. Brgy. 57, Tacloban	260	Residential lot	260,000
- (4 lots) Brgy. 89 San Jose, Tacloban	12,312	Agricultural lots	500,000
MAKATI			
· L2 B7 Global City, Fort Bonifacio	1,600	Commercial lot	288,000,000
MANILA			
· (11 units) 2/3 Floor Brickly I Condo. cor. España & Recto St., Sampaloc	311.49	Comm'l / Res'l Condo	8,000,000
· Sancho Panza St., Brgy. 408, Sampaloc	150	Residential lot	1,800,000
State Theatre Comm'l Bldg. Rizal Ave. cor. Paterno St., Sta. Cruz	1,238	Commercial lot	86,000,000
MARIKINA			
· (H&L) Rainbow cor. Gold SSS Vil. Phase 2 Concepcion	696	Res'l w/ improvement	2,500,000
· Sampaguita St., Sampaguita Village, Malanday	328	Res'l w/ improvement	1,800,000
MUNTINLUPA			
· St. Bernardino Village VI Susana Hts. Subd. Bo. Bagbagan	500	Residential lot	2,750,000
MISAMIS ORIENTAL			
· Brgy. Baliwagan Balingasag	13,881	Agrilcultural lot	200,000
NEGROS OCCIDENTAL			
· Along Circumferential Rd. Bata Subd., Bacolod City	1,000	Residential lot	1,600,000
Bata Subd. Sto. Rosario Dist. Bacolod City	900	Residential lot	1,800,000
· Bo. Camingaran, Bacolod City	8,186	Agricultural lot	850,000
· Brgy. Tangub, Bacolod City	28,942	Residential / Agricultural	7,250,000
Brgy. Tangub, Bacolod City	15,062	Residential / Agricultural	750,000
· Capitol subdivision Bacolod City	600	Residential lot	3,000,000
· Fuentebella Subdivision Brgy. Taculing, Bacolod City	1,000	Residential lot	300,000
· (3 lots) Gonzaga & De Leon Poblacion, Victorias City	1,030	Residential lots	1,450,000
· Henrietta Subd., Brgy. Singcang, Bacolod City	574	Residential lot	90,000
· (4 lots) Luisa Village Brgy. Tangub, Bacolod City	1,023	Residential lots	75,000
· (20 lots) Miriana Village Brgy. Tangub, Bacolod City	5,372	Residential lots	300,000
- (30 lots) Salvacion Vill., Brgy. Gumpana-an, Victorias City	9,180	Residential lots	350 /sq.m.
NUEVA ECIJA			
- (4 lots) Baloc, Sto. Domingo	1,197	Residential lots	750,000
(2 lots) Brgy. Daang Sarile, Cabanatuan City	53,935	Res. / Agricultural lots	50,000,000
Brgy. San Carlos Aliaga	27,204	Agricultural lot	400,000
Brgy. Salvacion II, Lupao	28,284	Agricultural lot with irr	850,000
· (2 lots) Bo. Nieves, San Leonardo	2,000	Agricultural lots	1,200,000
· (H&L) Mateo St., Poblacion Sur, Rizal	227	Res'l w/ imp.	180,000
· (2 lots) Quezon St., Poblacion, Talavera	402	Comm'l / Res'l w/ imp	2,000,000
PARAÑAQUE			
· (4 lots) Hilarion Henarez BF Homes III	1,494	Residential lots	5,000 /sq.m
· L5 Lavander St., St. Louis Compound 8	353	Residential lot	6,000 /sq.m
· Lourdes Teoville, Sucat	415	Comm'l / Residential	6,500 /sq.m.
· Quezon St., Teoville, Sucat	345	Residential lot	6,000 /sq.m.
PASAY			
· F. Fernando St., Sta. Clara District	2,870.45	Res'l / Comm'l lot	30,000,000
QUEZON CITY			
· Brickville I Condo N. Domingo St., & Gilmore Ave.	2,263.11	Res'l / Comm'l Condo	50,000,000
· Corner Doña Rodriguez & 6/7 Sts., New Manila	7,449	Residential/Comm'l	170,000,000
· N. Domingo, New Manila	250	Res'l / Comm'l lot	5,500,000
· Tolentino St., San Francisco del Monte	614.17	Residential lot	9,500,000
RIZAL			
· Along Manila East Road, Mambog, Binangonan	699	Residential lot	1,000,000
· (5 lots) Along M. Melendres St., Melendres Life Homes Subd. Gate II, Dolores, Taytay	6,532	Residential lots	2,500 /sq.m
· C. Lawis St., Sitio Maguey, San Isidro	10,211	Res'l / Agricultural lot	1,500 /sq.m.
· Corner Maya-Maya & Santana Drive, Victoria Valley Subd.	747	Residential lot	1,600,000
· Don Celso Ave. & King's Rd., Valley Golf & Country Club	2,555	Residential lots	5,200,000
· (5 lots) Our Lady of Lourdes Subd. San Isidro, Rodriguez	1,380	Residential lots	350,000
· (2 lots) Quezon Blvd., San Isidro, Angono	3,224	Residential lots	6,500,000
· (2 lots) San Carlos Loop Rd., San Carlos Hts. Subd. Brgy. Tayuman, Binangonan	761	Residential lots	600,000
· (20 lots) Sunnyville Subd., Sitio Tanag, San Isidro, Rodriguez	240-623	Residential lots	380 /sq.m.
SORSOGON			
· (2 lots) Brgy. Putiao, Pilar	821	Residential lots	250,000
ZAMBALES			
· Gordon heights, Olongapo	450	Residential lot	90,000
· Rizal St., San Pablo, Castillejos	416	Residential lot	145,600

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For more information: Please contact **Ms. ELSIE T. DELA CURA** of **EA Int'l. Placement,** Room 203-204 Aurora Plaza Building, J. Bocobo corner Arquiza Streets, Ermita, Manila, Telephone Nos. 526-6431, 526-4642, 525-8756. **Or EA Branch Office in Bacolod City Tel. 034-4338971 or 034 4343009.**

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Legal Department - Item #138
Salary Grade 23 + allowances
- Bachelor of Laws with RA 1080
- Must have at least two (2) years relevant experience and eight (8) hours relevant training

(2) ATTORNEY III
Legal Department - Item #134 and 139
Salary Grade 21 + allowances
- Bachelor of Laws with RA 1080
- Must have at least one (1) year relevant experience and four (4) hours relevant training

ATTORNEY II
Legal Department - Item # 140
Salary Grade 18 + allowances
- Bachelor of Laws with RA 1080
- Must have been a member of the school's official publication during undergraduate or law school studies
- Work experience and training are not required

ATTORNEY I
Legal Department - Item # 141-1
Salary Grade 16 + allowances
- Bachelor of Laws with RA 1080
- Work experience and training are not required

INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST III
MIS/Stat Division, PSBD - Item #106-2
Salary Grade 19 + allowances
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Technology or IT related course graduate
- Minimum of five (5) years experience in Information Technology
- Knowledgeable in systems analysis and design, database administration and network administration
- Proficiency in at least one programming language such as MS Access or Visual Basic
- CS Professional/Second Level Eligibility

INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST II
MIS/Stat Division, PSBD - Item # 107-2
Salary Grade 16 + allowances
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Technology or IT related course graduate
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in Information Technology
- Knowledgeable in systems analysis and design and programming
- Proficiency in at least one programming language such as MS Access or Visual Basic
- Have experience in working with an Accounting System
- CS Professional/Second Level Eligibility

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Personnel Division, Administration Department

June 3 2001 Inquirer

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2 FEMALE TEACHERS

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SALES REPRESENTATIVES

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The successful candidate will be given competitive salary and benefits. We offer continuous training and development with career growth opportunities.

If you are a graduate of any four-year college course (preferably accounting), between 21-27 years old, proficient in written and oral communication, with high motivation and pleasing personality, has dynamic qualities which will allow you to market highly prestigious pharmaceutical products and willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines, then...

COME JOIN THE WORLD'S BEST!!!

If you believe you are the person we are looking for, please hand carry your resumé ID photo and SSS No. on the following dates and venues:

Manila/Luzon applicants	June 4 & 5 (Monday & Tuesday) Zuellig Pharma Corporation HRD Office, Zuellig Bldg., Malugay St., Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City Tel. No. 845-7506
Visayas applicants	June 5 & 6 (Tuesday & Wednesday) Zuellig Pharma-Cebu Branch Dr. F. E. Zuellig Avenue, cor. Circumferrencial Road, New Mandaue City, Cebu Tel. No. (032) 345-6231 / 345-6226/28
Mindanao applicants	June 7 (Thursday) Zuellig Pharma-Davao Branch Bo. Tigatto, Buhangin, Davao City Tel. No. (062)241-0033 / 241-0319

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As we celebrate the Golden Anniversary of Rustan's,
we recall the times and lessons she shared with us.
Just like gold, her legacy is lasting; her memory so inspiring.

Through her vision, hard work and commitment
to excellence, the late Gliceria R. Tantoco together with
Ambassador Bienvenido R. Tantoco, Sr., established the
Rustan Group of Companies to what it is today.

We therefore pay tribute and dedicate Rustan's 50th Anniversary
to her loving memory.

Gliceria "Glecy" Rustia Tantoco

(December 21, 1923 - June 3, 1994)

Dame of Magistral Grace, Sovereign Military Order of Malta
Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Awardee

The Tantoco family, their relatives and friends, and the officers and staff of the Rustan Group of Companies, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Masses for the 7th Death Anniversary will be celebrated
in the following churches:

NATIONAL SHRINE OF SACRED HEART OF JESUS
#4 Dao St., San Antonio Village,
Makati City
6:00 A.M.
Bishop Crisostomo A. Yalung

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Cubao Store Branch
8:00 A. M.
Fr. Enrique Ma. Aliñio

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Alabang Store Branch
9:00 A.M.
Fr. Basil Apostol

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Ayala Center
Cebu City
10:00 A.M.
Msgr. Achilles Dakay

ST. JAMES THE GREAT PARISH
Ayala Alabang Village,
Muntinlupa City
10:00 A.M.
Msgr. Jose Chito Bernardo, Jr.

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Rustan's Tower Branch
11:00 A.M.
Fr. Dan Sta. Maria

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Harrison Plaza Store Branch
12:00 NN
Fr. Stephen Punnakal

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Makati Store Branch
12:30 P.M.
Fr. Santi Fernandez

ST. ANTHONY de PADUA PARISH CHURCH
2126 Singalong cor. San Andres,
Malate, Manila
4:00 P.M.
Msgr. Francisco Tantoco

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
#348 East 55th Street,
New York, NY
5:30 P.M.
Msgr. Michael Wrenn

JESUIT RESIDENCE CHAPEL
Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
5:45 P.M.
Fr. Carmelo Caluag

We surrender to God

Justina Sanares Vallejo vda. de Juan Garcia

February 2, 1907 - May 31, 2001

Long-time resident of Baguio City

Her daughters and sons-in-law, **Maria Isabel Garcia Ongpin (Jaime V. Ongpin †)**, **Maria Elena Garcia Vitug (Antonio J. Vitug)** and **Marina Garcia McCarthy (Sean McCarthy)**.

Sisters, **Pacita Vallejo Menchaca** and **Conchita Vallejo**.

Her grandchildren and their spouses, **Lisa O. Periquet** and **Antonio Periquet, Jr.**, **Rafael**, **Juan Gabriel** and **Marianna Ongpin**, **Joanna O. Duarte** and **Ramon Duarte**, **Miguel Jaime Ongpin**, **Enrique** and **Marcia Vitug**, **Ines**, **Javier Vitug**, **Nina G. Keaveney** and **Michael Keaveney**.

Her great-grandchildren, **Roberta**, **Rosanna** and **Juan Antonio Periquet**, **Alejandra Ongpin**, **Jaime Duarte**, **Jared Vitug** and **Madeleine Justina Keaveney**.

Nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Requiem Mass with her cremated remains was celebrated Friday night in Mandaluyong City.

In Baguio City, a Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Baguio Cathedral on Monday, June 4, 2001 at 9:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make a small voluntary contribution to the charity organization that she worked with for more than 50 years, the Young Ladies' Association of Charity - Baguio.

Our Dearly Beloved,

ROSALINA "BEBE" DAVID DASIG

Peacefully joined her Creator on June 1, 2001
at the age of 87.

Her beloved children **Manuel** and wife Imelda, **Alfredo, Ma. Victoria Dasig-Gearhart** and husband **Roy**, **Higinio**, **Romy** (†); grandchildren, relatives, and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Don Bosco Memorial Chapel at Arnaiz Avenue, Makati City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, June 5, 2001, 3:00 p.m. at Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

DLSU HS '64 and Coll. '69
condole with the family of our beloved classmate

JESUS M. "BABES" ALDEGUER JR.

who passed away on June 1, 2001.

We request the pious readers to please pray
for the eternal repose of his soul.

---

†

Domingo Duran Sison

U.P. Law '49 and Upsilon Sigma Phi
on his
First Death Anniversary
on June 05, 2001
will be remembered by his wife **Consuelo**;
family and friends in
the offering of a Holy Mass at
their home in Alpha Village
at 6:00 o'clock p.m.
A novena of Masses has also been offered
in his memory at the
San Agustin Church in Intramuros
and at the U.P. Chapel, Diliman.

JOVI L. DIMALANTA

Died in Lancaster, CA on May 19, 2001.

Beloved wife of the late **Efren Dimalanta**; loving mother of **Eileen** and **John Stein**, **Eleanor** and **Sonny Reyes**; cherished grandmother of **Liz**, **Denise**, **Joseph**, **Erin**, **Ejo** and **Janae**; daughter of **Juan** (†) and **Crispina Lucas**; beloved sister of **Johnny**, **Juanita**, **Jess** (†), **Josefina**, **Jaime**, **Jerome** and **Juliette**.

Interment took place on May 26, 2001 at Holy Cross Cemetery.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ① Copy of Death Certificate ② Any identification document (I.D.)

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN •

The family of the late

Arsenio Salud Lopez Jr.

wishes to announce that the Funeral Mass
originally scheduled for Sunday, June 3
shall instead be held on Monday, June 4 at 9:00 AM at
the Santuario de San Antonio church proper,
Forbes Park, Makati City.

A regular Novena Mass will be celebrated at
the Capilla de la Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio,
on Sunday, June 3 at 2:00 PM.

VICENTE T. ANIGAN

Peacefully joined his Creator on June 2, 2001
at the age of 84.

His bereaved wife **LUCILA**; children **GERARDO** and **MARIA LUZ**; daughter-in-law **BRENDA OROSCO**; grandchildren **ALBERTO VICENTE** and **GENARO MARTIN** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Monday, June 4, 2001, 10:00 a.m. at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque.

BENITO VENUS CONLU

of Ibajay, Aklan

His remains lie in state at Holy Child Chapel, Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

Interment to be announced later. For particulars, please call Tel. No. 281-1113, Cell Nos. (0917) 946-1106, (0917) 531-7465.

Message of Thanks

From the family of

ATTY. JOSE P. TANINGCO, C.P.A.

August 20, 1920 — May 15, 2001

Founder of the Rural Bank of Banga (Aklan), Inc. and
Rural Bank of Sta. Barbara (Iloilo), Inc.

We wish to convey our sincerest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to
all of our dear relatives and friends who condoled with us,
sent flowers and messages of sympathy, offered Masses, prayers and who,
in countless ways, provided strength and comfort in our moment of grief.

AMADEO A. DIMAYUGA

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord
on May 27, 2001 at the age of 75.

His loving wife **ADORACION**; children **RAWLINSON** and family; **CAESAR** and family; invite relatives and friends to the viewing and memorial services.

His body lies in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe, Makati City on June 4 and 5, 2001.

A Holy Mass will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 6, 2001. Interment will follow at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque.

MILO M. FLORES

Died in the Grace of our Lord on 23 May 2001
at Los Angeles, California

His bereaved father **Judge Alfredo C. Flores**;
mother **Julita Flores**; sisters **Ma. Rebecca** and **Ma. Angela**;
Tito Nol and **Tita Dorothy**; uncles and aunties; cousin **Janice**
and other cousins request the pious readers
to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels,
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
from June 2 to June 6, 2001.

Interment will be at Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches
on June 6, 2001 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

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AT: Bukidnon Resources Co., Inc.
Bgy. Dikium, Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon, Philippines
ON: Friday, 8th June 2001 at 10:30am Sharp
ON VIEW: Thursday, 7th June 2001, 9:00am - 5:00pm
NOTE: Please contact the auctioneers for detailed directions
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INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

PELCO II invites suppliers to apply for pre-qua[illegible] and subsequently found qualified to bid for the SUPPLY and DELIVERY of:

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Package 007-2001 Ladders, Hot Sticks, etc.
Package 008-2001 OFFICE SUPPLIES

The pre-qualification forms may be secured from the PBAC Secretariat, PELCO II Main office, San Roque, Guagua, Pampanga, from June 06, 2001 to June 13, 2001 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ONE HUNDRED PESOS (P100.00). Pre-qualification forms shall be submitted not later than 5:00 p.m. on June 14, 2001.

Pre-Qualification meeting is scheduled on June 15, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at Pelco II Main Building, San Roque, Guagua, Pampanga.

All pre-qualified bidders may obtain the necessary bid documents after paying a non-refundable fee of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) Main office at San Roque, Guagua, Pampanga.

Bidding will be announced later. For additional inquiries, please call the PBAC Secretariat at (045) 900 0474 or 900-0850.

(Sgd.) ENER D. PANGAN
Chairman
PELCO II - PBAC

(PDI - June 3 4 & 5 2001)

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18 June 2001: Apo View Hotel, Davao City
19 June 2001: Dynasty Court Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City

To reserve a slot for the orientation, please call or write us on or before 11 June 2001.

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Swisscontact (SC) collaborates with private partners, based on the principle of "helping people help themselves." With head office in Zurich-Switzerland, the 230 collaborators of SC manage and implement projects for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and other development agencies involved in SME promotion, Urban Ecology, and Vocational Training. SC has been in operation in the Philippines and has 30 projects nationwide.

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KALAYAAN

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND BID

The Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) is inviting all interested contractors (IAC Category Small "B") for our forthcoming public bidding for:

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ROOF FIBERGLASS INSULATION UNDER THE EXISTING PURLING OF ROOFING AND RE-ALIGNING OF EXISTING CEILING AT THE 3RD FLOOR OF NEW ADM. BUILDING PHASE 1 AND 2.

Issuance of bidding documents	**June 6, 2001**
Pre-bid conference	**To be announced later**
Bidding	**To be announced later**

The approved budget is Two Hundred Forty Three Thousand One Hundred Sixty Six Pesos and 82/100. (P243,166.82).

For inquiries interested parties may contact the PBAC Secretariat at tel. nos. 929-6010 to 19 loc. 275 (c/o Julie Mendoza).

The Bids and Awards Committee and the Institute reserve the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect thereto, accept bids as may be deemed advantageous thereto or postpone the bidding for whatever cause it may deem proper.

In case of failure, a re-bidding shall automatically be scheduled five (5) calendar days after the announcement of failed bidding at the same time and place as the first bidding.

(Sgd.) ALUMANDA M. DELA ROSA, Ph.D.
Acting Director

(PDI - June 3, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
860 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, Metro Manila 3008
Tel. Nos. 372-5057 • 372-5043
Fax Nos. 372-5048 • 372-5042

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO RE-BID

The Bureau of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources-Fisheries Resource Management Project (BFAR-FRMP), Department of Agriculture (DA) invites qualified bidders/suppliers to participate and submit their bid proposals in the bidding of the following items not later than 2:00 p.m. on June 18, 2001.

ITEM/S TO BID:

Package III 1 lot Various Computer Software

Item No	No. of Units	COMPUTER SOFTWARE
1.	1	MS Windows 2000 Advanced Server, Full Product (25 CAL)
2.	1	MS Windows 2000 Professional
3.	1	MS Office 2000 Premium
4.	1	MS SQL Server 2000 Enterprise Edition, Full Product (25 CAL)
5.	1	MS Visual Studio 6.0 Enterprise Edition or latest version
6.	1	MS BackOffice Server 2000 Full Product (5 CAL)
7.	1	MS BackOffice Server 2000 Full Product (50 CAL)
8.	1	MapObjects 2.0 Developer Kit or latest version
9.	1	Macromedia Dreamweaver Ultra Dev. v4.0 or latest version
10.	1	Macromedia Flash v5.0 or latest version
11.	1	Macromedia Freehand v10.0 or latest version
12.	1	Macromedia Fireworks v4.0 or latest version
13.	1	Macromedia Director v8.5 Shockwave Studio or latest version
14.	1	ArcSERVE 2000 Advanced Enterprise Edition (1-license)
15.	1	ArcSERVE 2000 MS Exchange Agent (1-license)
16.	1	ArcSERVE 2000 MS SQL Agent (1-license)
17.	1	NuMega DevPartner for Visual Basic version 6.5 or latest version
18.	1	Symantec Norton Antivirus Corporate Edition (20-pack) latest version
19.	1	Globalscape CuteFTP v4.0 or latest version
20.	1	Winzip v8.0 or latest version
21.	1	VisualRoute v5.1 or latest version
22.	1	Copernic 2001 Pro or latest version

NOTE: All Software items abovestated shall be quoted. Incomplete quote will disqualify the bid proposal

Bid forms together with complete specifications may be obtained from the BFAR Property Section.

Bids can be quoted in Philippine Pesos or its U.S. Dollar equivalent. The Central Bank Closing Peso: Dollar Rate on the last trading day before the bid opening will be used to evaluate the Dollar bids.

Bidders must bid for all items in the package. An incomplete bid will be considered not responsive.

Submission and opening of bids will be on June 18, 2001, 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon at the FRMP Conference Room, 2/F Estuar Building, 880 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

Interested bidders are required to submit the following requirements upon securing bidding forms: photocopies of Business License, Certificate of Registration/DTI, latest audited Financial Statement, latest Income Tax Return (original copies to be shown for authentication purposes). Bidders who have participated in the Opening of Bids held on May 28, 2001 need not submit the above stated documents.

This Office reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by PBAC is the most advantageous to the government. The PBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, or does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) MARCIANO F. CARREON III
Project Director, FRMP

(PDI - June 3 2001)

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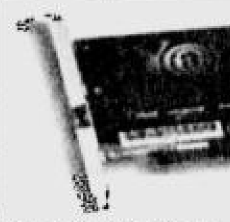

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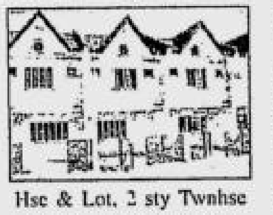

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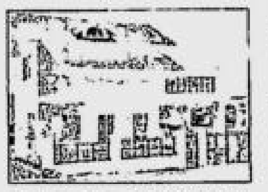

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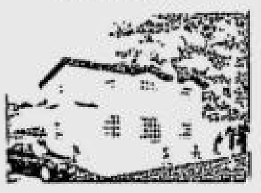

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H&L 300m²/ Lot 3740m² Whse 770m² nr SM/Rbson Fview 4178699/4177087

Loyola Grand 600m² @ P8500 Call 09185079799

PROVINCIAL

1,370Has @ P60/m² Loc. Mayantoc Sta Ignacia & San Jose Tarlac Frontage: 3.84Kms Along d H-way 652-0227 • 942-6181

150Has @ P250/m² Neg. 900M Shoreline 652-0227 • 942-6181

1,700Has @ P200/m² Along D H-way other side along shoreline 652-0227 • 942-6181

562m P850/m Gen. Trias 874-0332

Baguio Lot 3369m² Call 0917-3873136

Balayan Batangas 14.5ha T-7170137 • 0917-7912430

Bulacan Plaridel Frontage **North Expressway** 1.5ha P700/m² T-9488507

Capas, Tarlac 200Has Expandable to 1,000Has @ P320/m² Frontage 1.8 Kms 652-0227 • 942-6181

Cavite Light Industrial Park Pre-Selling Along Maguyam Rd., Carmona Cavite Tel 635-8108 • 636-0111

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IMUS 2873m² nr Aguinaldo Highway Junction 825-0158 731-4465

Sta Rosa. 114Has @ P1,500/m² S. Super H-way 53 Has @P1,500/m² Along Barrio Road 652-0227 • 942-6181

SUBIC 96,828m² 4 subd. 047-9134120 Jhun

Tagaytay nr Fantasy World 3ha corner Lot Call Amy / Vic 931-8847

Tagaytay w/View nr. DAP 5.802sqm Best Offer Owner Selling 637-6847/49

Occidental Mindoro 100has property in Lawaan, Abra de Ilog, Occ Mindoro nr Puerto Galera w/ beachfront suitable 4 resort/ranch/agri 4 only **P25/sqm** Call Nick 921-5718

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

OTHER AREAS

3500sqm Amadeo Cavite nr Tagaytay P2Mup 936-7701

SAN ROQUE Antipolo 4659m² P1,500m² 8961126

PARANAQUE

BF Pque Prime Lot 432m² P7T/m² • 722-2110

RIZAL

Antipolo 2564m² @P3T/ m² w/ Factory Rush 6812457

BEVERLY HILLS 924-8765

Binangonan Alng N'tional Hi-way 2,752m² P1,500/m² Call 652-0227

Cardona Sitio Riwata Ovr Looking 15 Hec.-20 Hec. P300/m² Call 652-0227

Morong Sitio Lanang alng N'tional H-way 6,908m² / P350/m² 652-0227

Tanay Ideal 4 fruit bearing trees 10,012m² / P250/m² Call 652-0227

Tanay Rizal 15Has. Title Adj. to Prop. Golf Course Call 926-7862 Aurel

Tanay Town Prop. 1,927m² / P5,000m² Call 652-0227

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

KALOOCAN

Swap! Townhouse to L-300 Diesel '97 & Up! 635-0219 / 20 1-9PM Look 4 Arnel

MAKATI

3Storey T'house at Makati 4205-B Madras, Palanan LA66 FA298 P7.5M still neg. PLEASE CALL 728-9856

C5 Nr. The Fort 965T 2BR 10T Mo/ 3 Yrs No Int. RFO 0919-3224760 • 1481-769894

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Nr Loyola Memorial 10min 2 Ateneo, St. Lucia Libis, C-5, Riverbanks inside Subd., w/ Security T-hus 2BR/ 2TB/ Attic 2M 4128163-65 / 09174696831

PASIG

Nr Strata 3BR Large Wash/ Garden Space 250m² 297-4154

PASIG Townhouses / Hse & Lots / Lot P1.6M 15min From Ortigas w/ Garage 2br LA-60 FA-88 Amenities Terms/ 15 Yrs Ven 899-3460 • 890-7945

Rush! Renaissance 2000 DBO 2br+2tb 09178143792

QUEZON CITY

C-5 Mindanao Ave 680T & Up / Unit 3yrs to pay 0% Int 9256340 / 09185079799

Century Imperial Timog 2br FF T.Morato Condo BN 1br 0917-8152734 Text or Call 411-0116 Loc. 1101

Commonlwealth nr Ever Gotesco 2sty Attic Terms Amy - Vic 9318847

CUBAO Condo P1.3"EZ"term rent to own swap lot car 9120647 9124428 4381161

ISABELLA Place Fairview 3BR3TB 7283057/7282647

Mo. Ignacia FA140m² 4.5M nr St. Mary 3BR 4134411

New Manila Impressive 2&3BR w/Comp. Garden & Amenities Call 0919-8378988

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CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

Nr. Ateneo 3BR 3TB 80m² Pkg Slot 2.5M • 433-6873

Nr SM Fairview Townhouse 3sty 1-2M Terms Call Amy / Vic 931-8847

SALE/RENT 2-3BR TERMS AFFORDABLE T414-0573

T/Hse Nr. Ateneo 426-0189

OTHER AREAS

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San Juan nr ICA Xavier condo 131m² 3BR 2prkg 743-9094 / 411-0381

RIZAL

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MMP 2L@45T Spl 8386652/45

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Palayan City NE Farm Lot 7ha@P30/m² w/ 3ha quarry (neg) Call 0919-2047615

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APARTMENT

MANILA

1467 Crisostomo Sampaloc Roly 6771828/ 6682108

3BRnrDLSlle Taft 8992148

MARIKINA

New 2BR Apt P8T 9413016 121 Tangerine SSS Marikina

PASIG

B-New 2BR 2TB Bagong Ilog, Pasig T-9374514

QUEZON CITY

205 Spk Perez 7401083

2BR 1TB CUBAO 911-8482

2BR 23 D. Tirona Project 4 QC nr P. Tuazon T9125969

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QUEZON CITY

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42 Zodiac St., Bel-Air Newly Renovated, Split Level, 5BR 3TB Mds Rm. w/TB, Garden, Garage T7218847, 7218801

MANILA

Cor Lot 1503 San Gregorio Paco Contact Cynthia 757-0167 • 0917-4837974

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Nr UP Diliman 5243126

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BF P'que A. Chico St. 4BR/3TB #825-6719 Carol

BFP 150FA/206LA 8428902

SAN JUAN

GILMORE 3br den 7213576

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Penthouse New 380m² SFurn 8101 Pearl Plaza, Pearl Drive, Ortigas 637-8101 637-8080 9:30am-7pm M-Sat

RIVERSIDE TOWNHOMES nr Ever Gotesco - Pasig Zel:7224192/ 3 M-F ofc hrs.

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Nr. G'hills 4BR5TB strng H20 w/grge 25T/mo. 7231081

T-HSE NR. G'HILLS 3BR & TB w/ Tel. 2 to 3 Car Grg. Call 722-0261 Anna

PARANAQUE

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SAN JUAN

Greenhills 1BR FF 25T New Mla 2&3BR 0919-8378988

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Ofc Space 4 Lease 85-1525sqm Avlbl Mkt-CBD T8114102-Mimi

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Comml/Resdl 30m² 2038 Mabuhay St. Sta. Ana P12,P8T,P7T 5639649/5615411

Mkna Ofc/Clinic 646-8546

P1,800/mo Stalls Malate T-400-6420 / 23 Sn Pedro Laguna 808-6006 / 07

P.Tamo Tower L/G 0917-9485597

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98 MB100D 395T 731-3492

M Benz Model 70 85T Only CALL ROSE 8611055

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98Pregio 340T 731-3492

99 H100 340T 731-3492

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CARS FOR RENT

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Starex L300 Coaster Bus Cars 631-7396 • 631-3496

9344988 L300 MB&Van

BrdalMB/Vans 9296250/4535288

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice if hereby given that the estate of the late JUAN A. BIROG has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs on May 24, 2001 under Doc No. 563; Page No. 113; Book No. VIII; Series of 2001 before Notary Public Atty Amado Villafuerte.
(PDI-June 3, 10 &17, 2001)

PERSONAL

Billiard
(800sq.m) w/Ofc. Inside, compl kitchen equipt food warmer, 14 New Billiard tables, w/karaoke machine. Nr. School w/Reg. custr / oprtl & Fully furn (Add. 30 Colon St.,) Lala (02) 929-3321 • (0917) 8069674

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. JUDE
O HOLY ST. JUDE apostle and martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near in kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present, urgent petition (make your request). In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Saint Jude, pray for us and all who invoke your aid.

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Only duly accredited bidders/suppliers will be allowed to participate in the bidding. List of requirements to be submitted:

1. Letter of intent
2. Article of Incorporation and by-laws
3. Business License
4. Financial Statement (last 2 years)
5. ITR for the last 2 years
6. Location map of office
7. DOH Accreditation
8. List of clients and contact person
9. Product list with certificate of exclusive distributorship and brochure
10. Certificate of trainings for service engineers
11. Notarized certificate of authority to sign and represent the company
12. Certificate of major parts availability

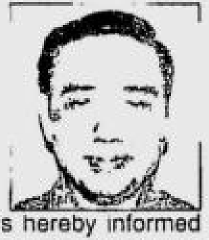
All interested bidders/suppliers must submit their accreditation documents on or before June 18, 2001 at Purchasing Division.

The PHC reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder/s if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information and the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders

(Sgd.) ROMEO J. SANTOS, M.D.
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI – May 25, 26, 27, June 1, 2 & 3, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



The public is hereby informed the **CO TO WING**, whose picture appear above has a **Pending Criminal Case (no. 00-2449 to 00-2452)** filed at Branch 45 of Metropolitan Trial Court of Pasay City, for violation of **B.P. 22/ESTAFA**. Any person who might know his whereabouts please contact:

**FERIA FERIA LUGTU LA'O
NOCHE LAW OFFICES
8/F DPC Place, 2322 Pasong Tamo Ext.,
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(PDI – June 3, 2001)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

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Holy Spirit, Thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. Amen. CLAUDETTE

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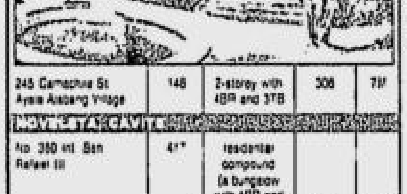
Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
BACOOR, CAVITE				
Bk 1 Lot 18 St. Manuel Subd Bc Talaba	300	one-storey with 3BR and 2TB	[illegible]	3.2M
BULACAN				
Purong Bunange Sta. Maria	5784	bungalow with 3BR and 1TB	130	5.5M
1329 Ubs St. Saluysoy Meycauayan	856.77	single detached house with 7BR and 7TB	307	5.5M
CABUYAO, LAGUNA				
Bk 13 Lot 8 Britanz St Shineland Village	180	single detached with 2BR and 1TB	157.5	1.2M
CAINTA, RIZAL				
Bk 9 Lot 1 Mt. Apo cor Sierra Madre Suburban Heights	300	bungalow with 3BR and 2TB	75	1.5M
No. 11 Burnley St Brookside Hills Subd	255	2-storey with 4BR and 2TB	195	2.2M
CALOOCAN CITY				
9 Matanzal St. Amparo Subd. Novaliches	264	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	[illegible]	4.4M
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
Bk 1 Lot 10 B. Gutierrez St. BF Resort	267	3-storey with 3BR and 2TB	236	2.7M
47 Marge Moran St BF Resort Village	749	single detached house with 7BR and 5TB	380	4.8M
No. 18 Kuala Lumpur St BF Homes	396	2-storey with 5BR and 5TB	324	5.4M
MANILA				
307-313 Ramirez St San Nicolas	40	3-storey house/ mezzanine	6[illegible]	14M
MARIKINA				
Bk 4 Lot 7 Dunno St Vista Valley Subd	200	bungalow (duplex) with 6BR and 3TB	137	1.6M
MONTALBAN, RIZAL				
Bk 5 Lot 3 St John St King David Subd	[illegible]	1-storey with 4BR and 2TB	[illegible]	800T
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
#125 Lipa St Ayala Alabang Village	864	2-storey with 4BR and 4TB swimming pool	548.5	[illegible]
245 Camachile St Ayala Alabang Village	148	2-storey with 4BR and 3TB	306	7M
NOVELETA, CAVITE				
No. 380 Int. San Rafael III	4[illegible]	residential compound (a bungalow with 1BR and 1TB and another 1-storey with basement, 1BR and 1TB)	275	1.2M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
Bk 5 Lot 1 Emerald St. Greenheights Subd	122	bungalow with 4BR and 3TB	265	6M
No. 17 Nuestra Señora De Soledad, San Antonio Valley 9	421	bungalow with 5BR and 2TB and 2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	254	2.4M
PASAY CITY				
1966 Taft Office Center Taft Ave. corner P. Ramonte		residential office unit	[illegible]	[illegible]
No. 187 Amaiz Ave San Roque	207	house and lot	37	[illegible] M
PASIG CITY				
114 Panama cor Kingston St., Pasig Greenpark	200	single detached with 4BR and 3TB	191	2.14M
Unit 2S-7 Crescent Condominium San Miguel Ave		2-level Condo with 3BR and 4TB	357.5	15M
QUEZON CITY				
Unit 3 Ma. Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd. Brgy San Agustin Novaliches	35.2	townhouse with 2BR and 1TB	48	[illegible]
Int. Alcantara St Banlat, Tandang Sora	276	single detached with 3BR and 2TB	125	[illegible] M
No. 8 Cawtang Compd Brgy Kaligayahan Novaliches	200	unfinished 3-storey with 6BR and 5TB	430	2.5M
Bk 5-156 Lot 7) Unit 14 Ponte Alta Townhomes, Samar Ave West Triangle, Diliman	56	3-storey townhouse with 4BR and 3TB	214	5.4M
SAN JUAN				
Unit 502 Casa Madrid Condominium via Pasadena 209 Pasadena Drive		condominium unit with 3BR and 3TB	122.22	3.75M
SAN MATEO, RIZAL				
Bk 23 Lot 16 Colorado St. Greenland Newtown Subd	204	Duplex type (1-storey) with 2BR and 1TB, 3BR and 1TB	132.92	[illegible]
STO. TOMAS, BATANGAS				
Sto. Tomas near the Junction	525	[illegible] storey, condominium building [illegible]	338	25M
STA. ROSA, LAGUNA				
Bk 5 Lot 2 Via Venezia St. Romanville Subd Sinenar	168	2-storey house with 4BR and 3TB	93.84	1.8M



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GIRAFFE (Bar & Grill) PHILS. INC., located at G/F 6750 Ayala Ave., Makati City, has ceased to operate and is now selling its *bar and kitchen equipments, furniture, chinaware, glassware and utensils.*

For more information please contact Elsie and/or Angie at telephone nos. 815-3232, 815-3229 and 815-3202.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby informed that **PRS NETWORK GROUP, INC.** has ceased to be connected with FORTUNE GUARANTEE & INSURANCE CORPORATION (FGIC) effective 30 April 2001. Any transaction entered by PRS in behalf of FGIC after this date shall no longer be honored.

FORTUNE GUARANTEE & INSURANCE CORPORATION
4F Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Boulevard, 1603 Pasig City
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sbma
SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID REAL STATE DEVELOPERS

The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) invites real estate developers and capable land investors to submit pre-qualification applications to participate in proposing projects for development of several properties being offered under its *Pro-active Land Marketing Program.*

The properties that will be offered to the qualified developers are:

Property	Identification	Project Site	Area (m²)
A.	Waterfront Mixed Use	Parcel 29, Central Business District (CBD) Bounded by Manila Avenue, Dewey Avenue and Waterfront Road	11,270
B.	Mini Business Park	Parcels, 66, 67, 70, 44-1, 44-2, CBD Bounded by Canal Road, Olongapo Canal, and Manila Avenue	44,000
C	Dewey Avenue Offices	Parcels 55, CBD bounded by Dewey Avenue, Espiritu St., Rd. G and Fifth St.	8,570
D.	Convention Center	Intersection of Rizal Ave. and Tipo Expressway	80,000
E.	Business Hotel	Adjacent to Tipo Expressway and within the vicinity of the Gateway Convention Center	25,000

Pre-qualification Application and information packets for each property shall be available for issuance starting **May 28, 2001** at the Planning & Development Office, Rm. 108, Bldg. 229, Waterfront Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, tel nos. (047) 252-4097/4078 upon payment of One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00) which is non-refundable. Last day of submission of duly accomplished Pre-qualification Application and other supporting documents is on **June 22, 2001, not later than 5:00 P.M.**

Time and date of submission and opening of bids, Pre-bid conference shall be confirmed in the Notice of Pre-qualification. An Information Briefing and site inspection for the properties will be held on the 1st and 15th of June, 2001. Visit www.tsgsubic.com/real estate.html for more information.

SBMA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect therein and to accept real estate developers whose proposal is the most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ**
Chairman, PBAC

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MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.

Who pays ₱40,000 for a handbag?

THE NEW line of Louis Vuitton looks like it's geared towards business people (or anyone related to a very successful business person), for the simple reason that they are among the few who can afford the brand's very steep price tags.

LV bags cost some P20,000 to P60,000 (and above), purses go for an average of P10,000 to P20,000 and a filofax goes for P15,000. Many people may find it surprising but people do still buy the stuff.

During the sneak preview for media of the new line Thursday, Louis Vuitton Pacific Ltd. public relations specialist Katherine Kwei described the interior of the bags. Most have provisions for the ubiquitous cell phones of working women.

LV Philippines retail manager Gigi de los Reyes-Mabanta says Filipinos account for about 70 percent of their sales, with mostly Japanese and Korean buyers accounting for the balance.

"This is because there are a lot of Japanese businessmen here and the number of Koreans are also increasing. And they buy outside their countries," Mabanta says.

Working women comprise more than half of the local market, starting from the middle managers, but mostly those with VP positions and higher. Other buyers are wives of these successful businessmen.

Mabanta says most pay through credit cards.

The economic downturn, unfortunately, reduced the number of middle managers buying Louis Vuitton leather goods and shoes.

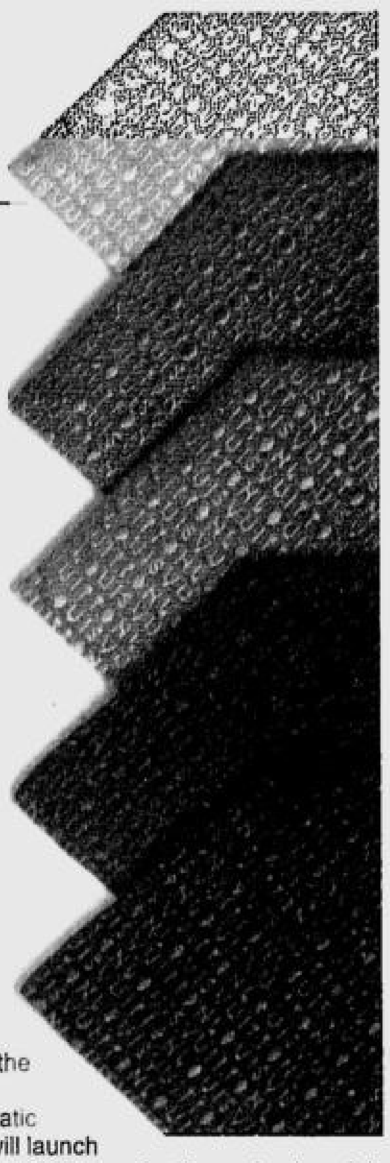
During the preview, LV also put on display the evening shoes for men. It is the first time LV is going into the evening shoe line, just shortly after the French firm went into the growing shoe market.

LV is the only brand that never goes on sale. It also very rarely retires styles. Its most expensive products are its trunks that can go for as much as P1 million.

Only a handful of the new line are available, the rest will come by the third quarter of the year.

Margie Quimpo-Espino

THE Damier canvas or the checkered look was the first design made by Louis Vuitton in 1896. It was very easy to copy so he designed the more famous monogram look. Damier, however, is making a comeback. It is also called the toaster design. This features the Sarria mini, Sarria bucket bag, Sarria horizontal. Price tag would be P20,000 to P40,000.



IN line with the in trend of monochromatic colors, LV will launch its Monochrome Games for ties under the mini Louis Vuitton style. Price tag P6,000 to P7,000.

THE mini monogram in canvas is a first for the French bag makers. Shown are the closed shoes for women in cherry and blue denim. Price tag would be about P20,000.

Gucci to go on $2.7-B shopping spree

TOKYO—Italian luxury group Gucci has up to $2.7 billion to spend on global acquisitions of brands with potential and declining labels, group chief executive Domenico De Sole said Wednesday.

"As for our war chest (for acquisitions), we still have cash of $2.7 billion," said Sole at a news conference in Tokyo, adding that Gucci generated $500 million in cash last year alone.

"We don't need to finance anything, and we have plenty of borrowing capacity if we need it," he added.

Sole said the group had already "looked at several companies in Europe" as potential acquisition targets.

Regarding a legal battle over control of the Gucci group raging between 42-percent shareholder Pinault-Printemps-Redoute (PPR) and archrival LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton, which has a 20.6-percent stake, Sole said: "I'm fully confident we will prevail in all litigations we are involved (in)."

The head of the fashion group—which has favored PPR from the start—said: "We have a lot of cash, LVMH has a lot of debt."

He also suggested there were strategic differences between the two groups and that Gucci was uniquely a luxury brand, intent upon expanding its global presence.

"One thing we believe in very strongly is that we want to be very focused on luxury brand companies, we are sometimes wrongly compared to LVMH but we want to stay very disciplined in everything we buy," he said.

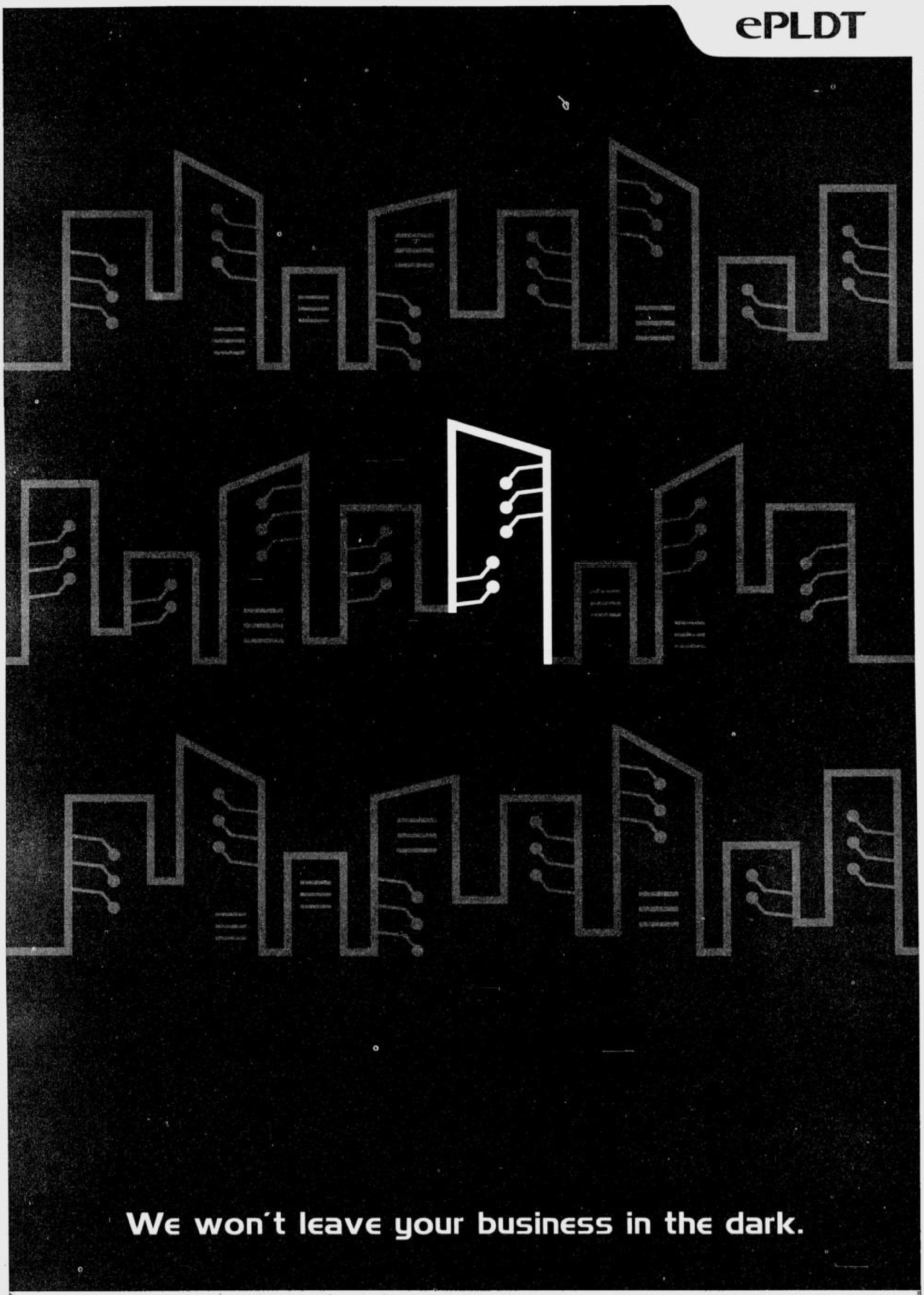
The group has been on a mission since November 1999 to create a conglomeration of different brands united under Gucci.

To date the group has gained control of the Yves Saint Laurent label and beauty products, Italy's luxury shoe maker Segio Rossi and bag producer Bottega Veneta, and Swiss watch firm Bedat.

It has also formed alliances with British designers Alexander McQueen and Stella McCartney to help develop their respective brands.

Profits at the luxury group have surged over the past 12 months to March, thanks to these fashionable purchases. For the year 2000, revenue was up 82.7 percent to $2.26 billion and operating profit grew 49.5 percent to $408.4 million.

Gucci now has 202 shops worldwide, up from 158 in 1999. *AFP*



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SMILES OF HOPE. Among the first batch of Thomasites to set foot in the Philippines

A is for apple, B is for boy . . . T is for Thomasites

BY ALEX Y. VERGARA

THE DAY her class of elementary students elected their class president, the young adviser was puzzled: out of 52 students who cast their votes, she counted 79 ballots from the ballot box!

Just a few days ago, she and her colleagues were complaining to the school principal about the lack of classrooms, school supplies and textbooks necessary to teach their eager pupils. To top it all, they weren't sure if they were

A IS/ p.C6

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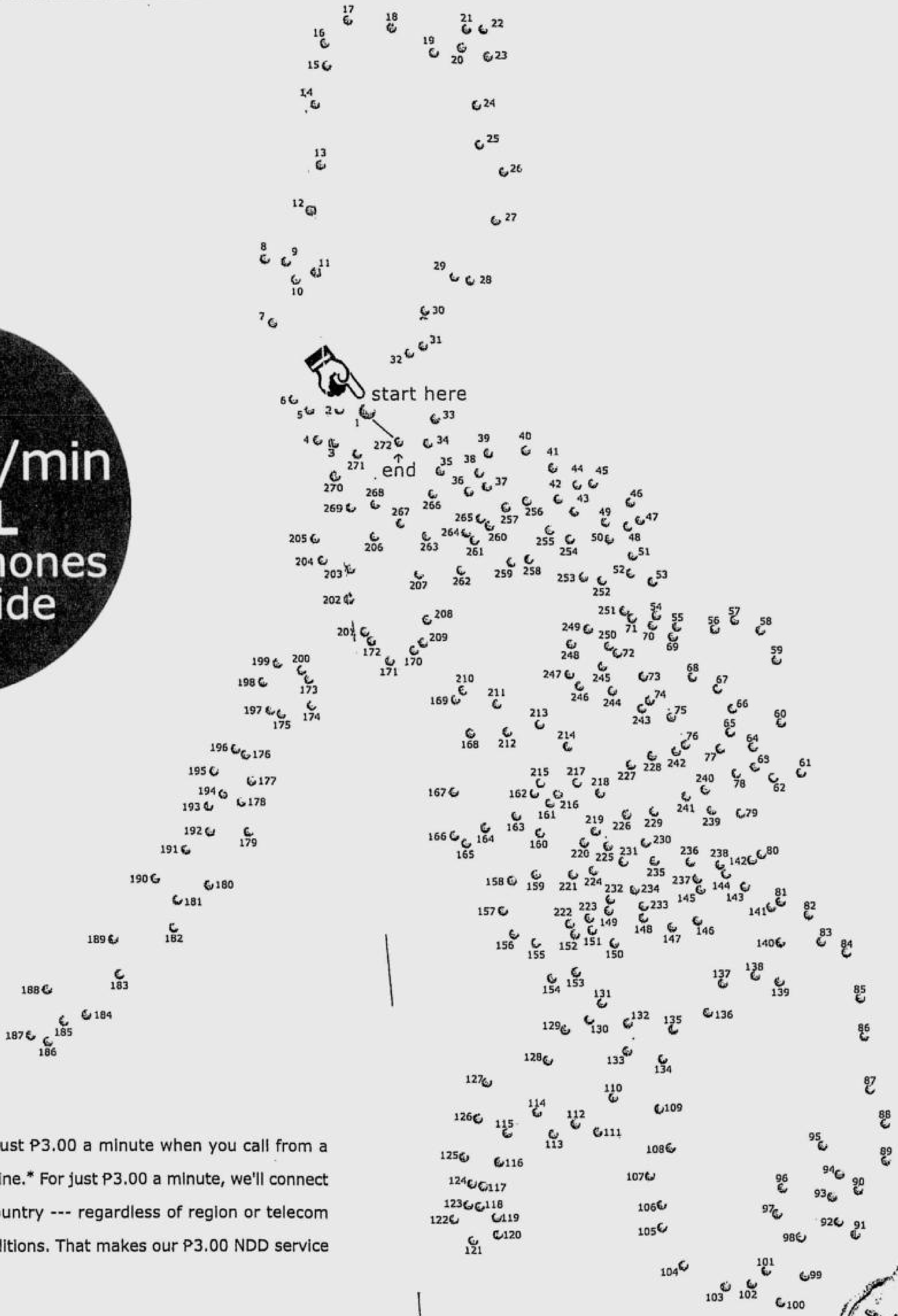

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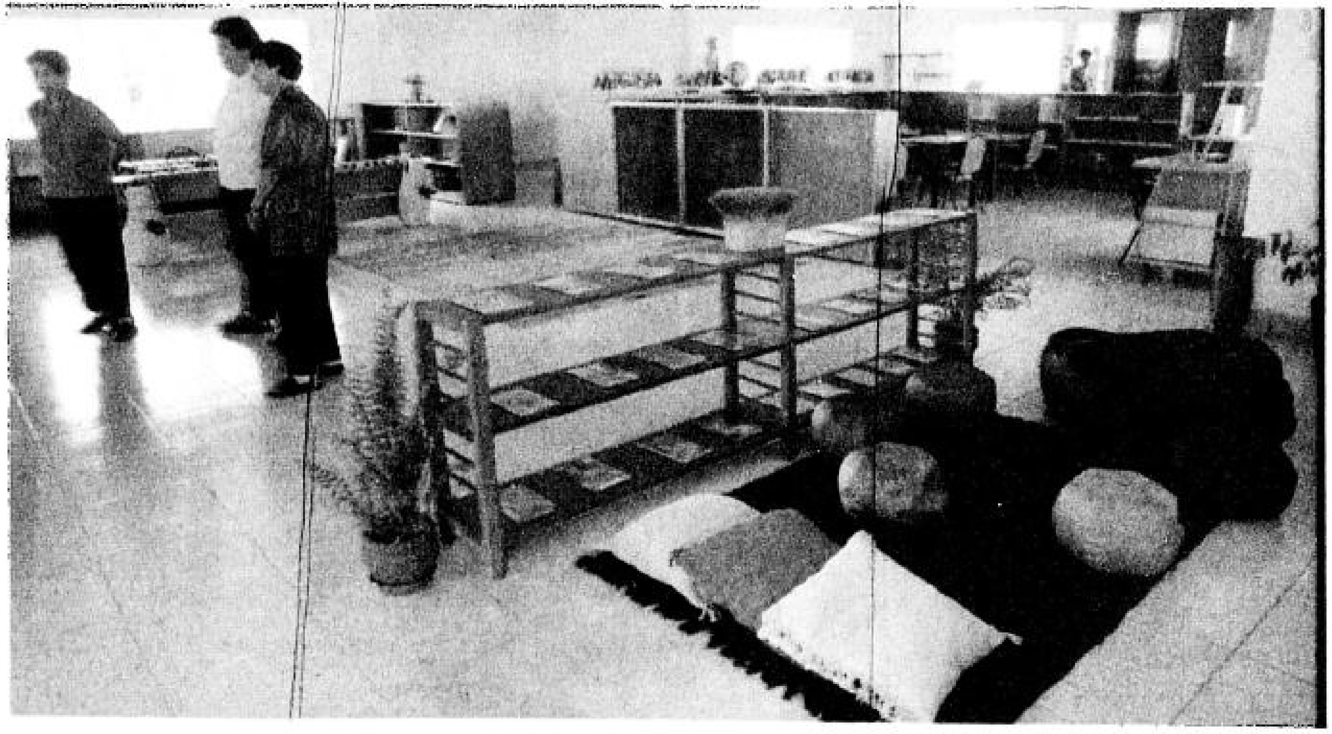


MONTESSORI METHOD. Classroom at Temple Hill Int'l School

PHOTO BY ROGER CARPIO

Some new (and old) kids on the block

BY CATHY BABAO GUBALLA

THE FIRST day of school is just a heartbeat away. A few new schools have just opened promising spanking facilities and innovative curricula. Most parents have enrolled their children and are now in the final stages of uniform-fitting or textbook wrapping. However, there may still be a few parents out there who are undecided or who have yet to pick out a new school for their children. Here is a listing of some of the old and new players for schoolyear 2001-2002.

Preschools

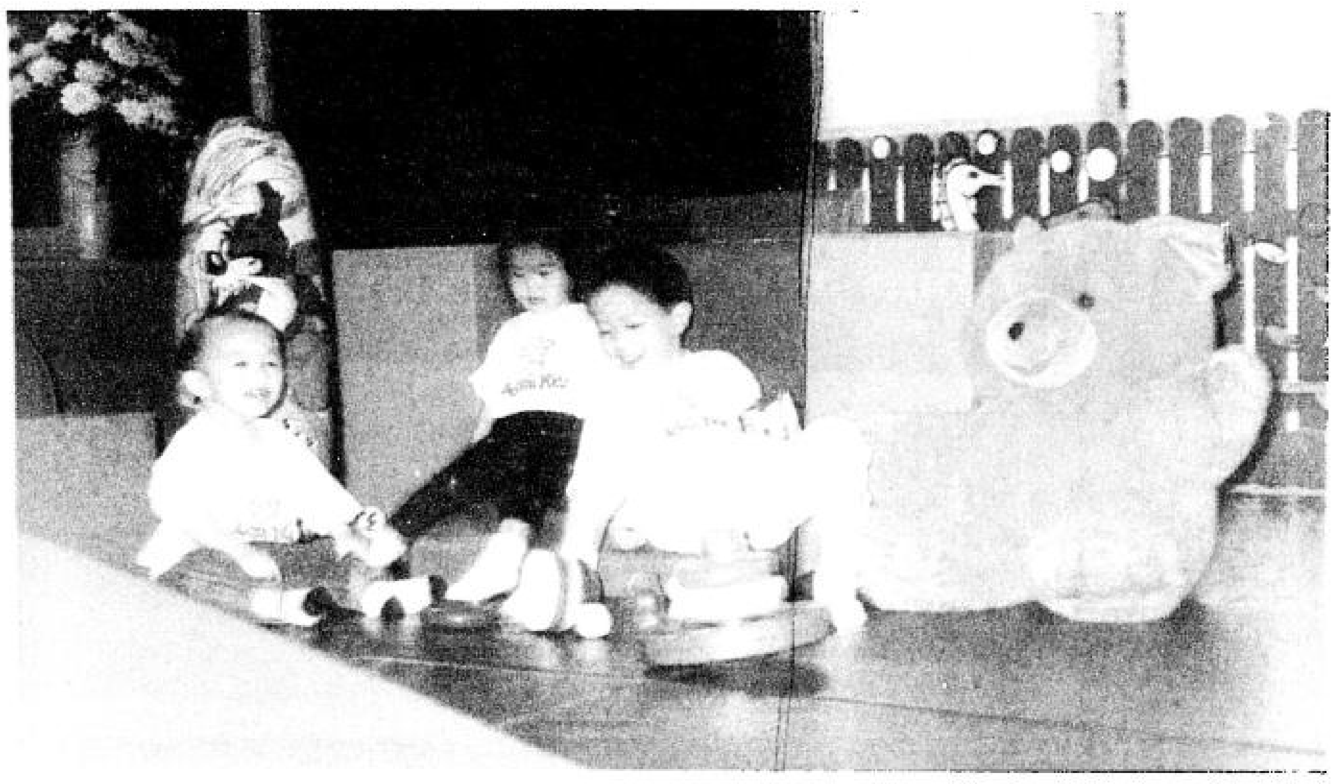
Action Kidz. A child development center that utilizes the Multiple Intelligence approach developed by Harvard University psychologist Howard Gardiner. The MI theory identifies and nurtures a child's areas of strength and bridges these strengths to other subject areas. A ratio of 5-8 children per teacher is strictly enforced. There is a soft-contained play system that provides flexibility for the spatial needs of the child. The playgym has a floor specially built to provide gentle rebound and protection. Fully air-conditioned, the school has a host of development and educational sessions, physical activities, arts and crafts workshops. Located on the 4/F of Discovery Center in Ortigas, call 636-0747 for more information.

LEAP (Learning Experientially through Appropriate Practice) School for Young Children. LEAP believes in Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP), an approach to working with young children based on their age, individual character and socio-cultural background where children's interests and overall development are paramount. LEAP teachers have masters' degrees or at the least, a Childhood Education or Psychology degree. Has spacious classrooms and playgrounds. Classes are offered for children from 2-5 years old. A limited number of children are admitted in each class to closely monitor and care for each child. All classrooms are air-conditioned. Located in Greenmeadows Subdivision, Quezon City, call 633-0270 for more information.

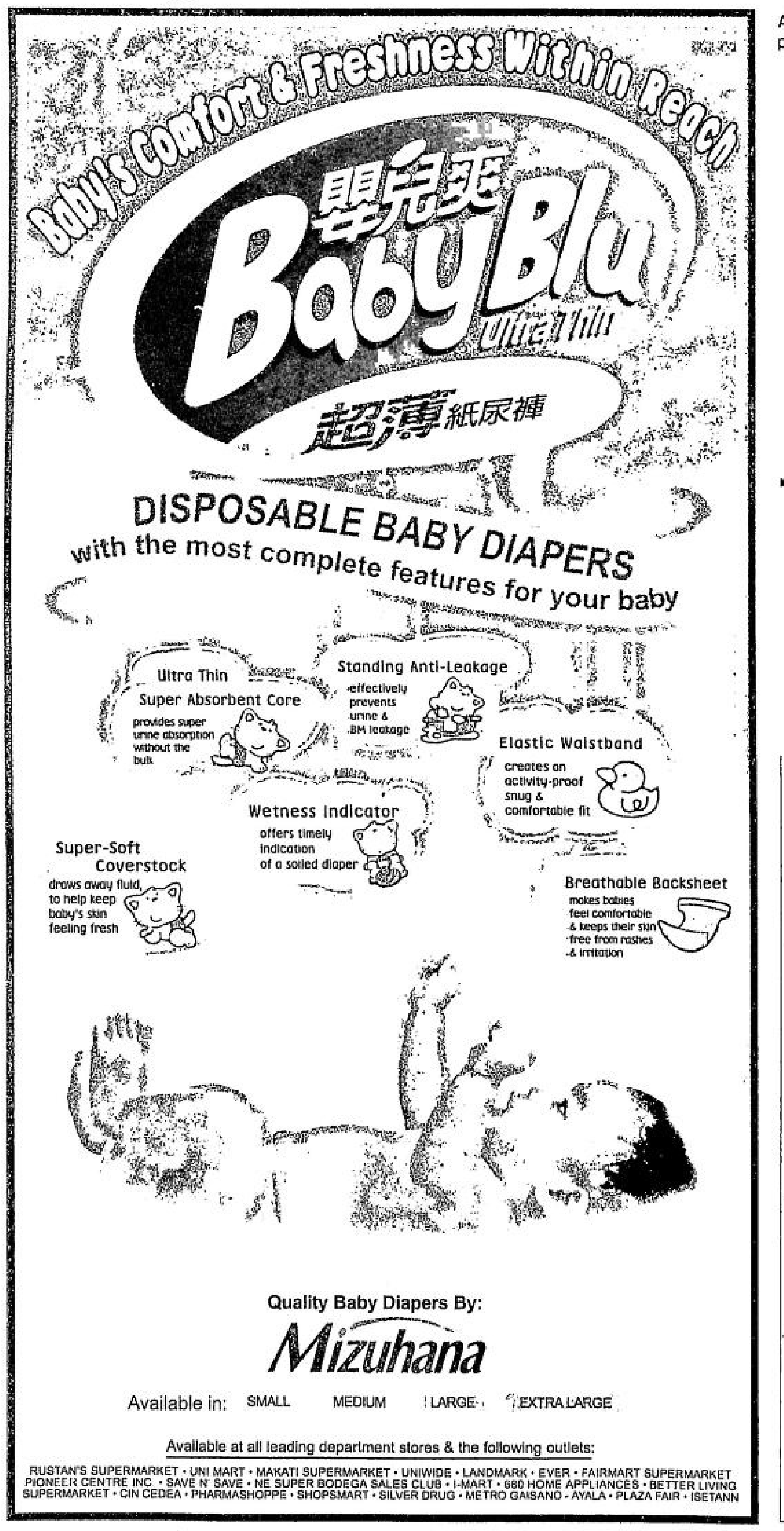
Prepcamp. Located in BF Homes, Las Piñas. A maximum of 15 students per class. Five levels. Accepting children from 2½-6 years of age. The curricula for all levels include skills for practical life experience, basic learning tools such as reading, writing, math, art and nature appreciation. Call 825-1129 for more information.

STI (Systems Technology Institute) Pre-School. Curriculum surpasses DECS standards, goes beyond exercising the child's gross and fine motor skills and promoting self-help. The core curriculum consists of the following programs: Integrated Communication Arts Program (ICAP) employs a multidimensional and integrated approach to enhance the child's receptive and expressive language to promote better self-expression and articulation. Meaningful Math Experiences (MME) is an experiental, hands-on method of learning mathematical concept. Investigative Method in Science (IMS) is a discovery-oriented science program that supports the child's curiosity and active exploration of the

SOME/ p.C3



ACTION Kidz's soft play system



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Dr. Gene Abes

SHOULD I TAKE ANTIBIOTICS FOR MY SORE THROAT?

Dr. Gene Abes, a Master of Public Health graduate, is the chairman of the ENT Department of the Philippine General Hospital.

Believe it or not, antibiotics are not always the best way to treat a sore throat. In fact, it may even worsen the situation.

WHEN SHOULD I TAKE ANTIBIOTICS?

Generally, if your sore throat is caused by viral infection, no antibiotics are needed.

If however, your sore throat is bacterial in origin, like strep throat, then antibiotics will help, especially when it comes to preventing more serious secondary bacterial infections.

Your doctor would be in the best position to help you decide whether or not you should take antibiotics.

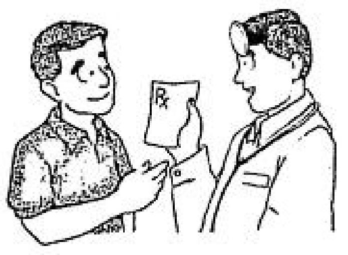
HOW DOES THE DOCTOR DECIDE IF I NEED ANTIBIOTICS?

Your history and physical exam will help the doctor decide if you need antibiotics or not. Antibiotics usually are prescribed only for patients who might have "strep throat," an infection caused by bacteria called Streptococcus. A patient with strep throat might have a sore throat with fever that starts suddenly, without a cough or cold symptoms. Strep throat is very common in children from 5 to 12 years of age. The exam might show a red throat, with pus on the tonsils and swollen neck glands. If you have these signs, the doctor may do other tests to see if you need an antibiotic.

WHY GET A DOCTOR'S ADVICE? WHAT'S THE HARM IN TAKING ANTIBIOTICS?

Even if antibiotics like penicillin and amoxicillin are easily available over the counter, you should remember to take them according to your doctor's advice. It's very important to take the right dose at the right direction. Or else, you run the risk of making the infection more resistant to the antibiotic you took.

Your doctor would then have to prescribe a more potent but much more expensive second line antibiotic to treat your infection.



> ***Even if antibiotics... are easily available over the counter, you should remember to take them according to your doctor's advice... Or else... your doctor would have to prescribe a much more expensive second line antibiotic to treat your infection.***

Lately, studies have shown that although early intake of antibiotics significantly alleviate the symptoms earlier, this may cause more frequent release or recurrence of bacterial infection. Besides, taking antibiotics may carry the risk of causing allergic reaction. Some of these reactions may be serious.

IF MY DOCTOR DOESN'T GIVE ME ANTIBIOTICS, WHAT CAN I DO TO FEEL BETTER?

Normally, it may take several days for you to feel better, no matter what kind of sore throat you have. You can do several things to help your symptoms. For fever or muscle aches, you can take a pain reliever. Eating soft or liquid foods and drinking lots of water can reduce the pain of swallowing.

Also, gargling with oral antiseptics, particularly with hexetidine, can help relieve the pain in your throat and at the same time reduce the amount of bacteria present. This can prevent the bacteria from causing a more serious infection.

Hexetidine
Bactidol

Next week, Dr. Abes will explain how smoking can aggravate sore throat.

Leaves bacteria dead.

Some new (and old) kids on the block

(From page C2)

world around them. Creative Learning Through Technology (CLT) is a multimedia program that uses specially evaluated software provided to learners by teaching basic concepts in the languages, arts and mathematics. Music and Movement Program (MMP) is designed to develop children's musical intelligence, bodily-kinesthetic abilities and knack for creative expression.

Each STI Pre-School has a Busy Hands Room which serves as a venue for enriching what is being discussed in the lecture room. STI Pre-Schools have play equipment specially designed for preschoolers to make sure that outdoor play is fun, engaging and safe. Call STI at 818-8534/893-6620.

Sunshine Nursery School. Geared for 3- and 4-year-olds. Located in Santa Rosa, Laguna. Facilities include modern play equipment, a language corner that gives emphasis to speech and reading development. Small classes with a ratio of 7 children per teacher. Call 045 512-9610 for information.

Take the Nations for Jesus Christian Academy (TNJCA). The only Christian SPED school in the country using the mainstream approach where the school's SPED program is mainstreamed with the school's regular curriculum. Classes maintain a two to four students per SPED teacher

SOME/ p.C4

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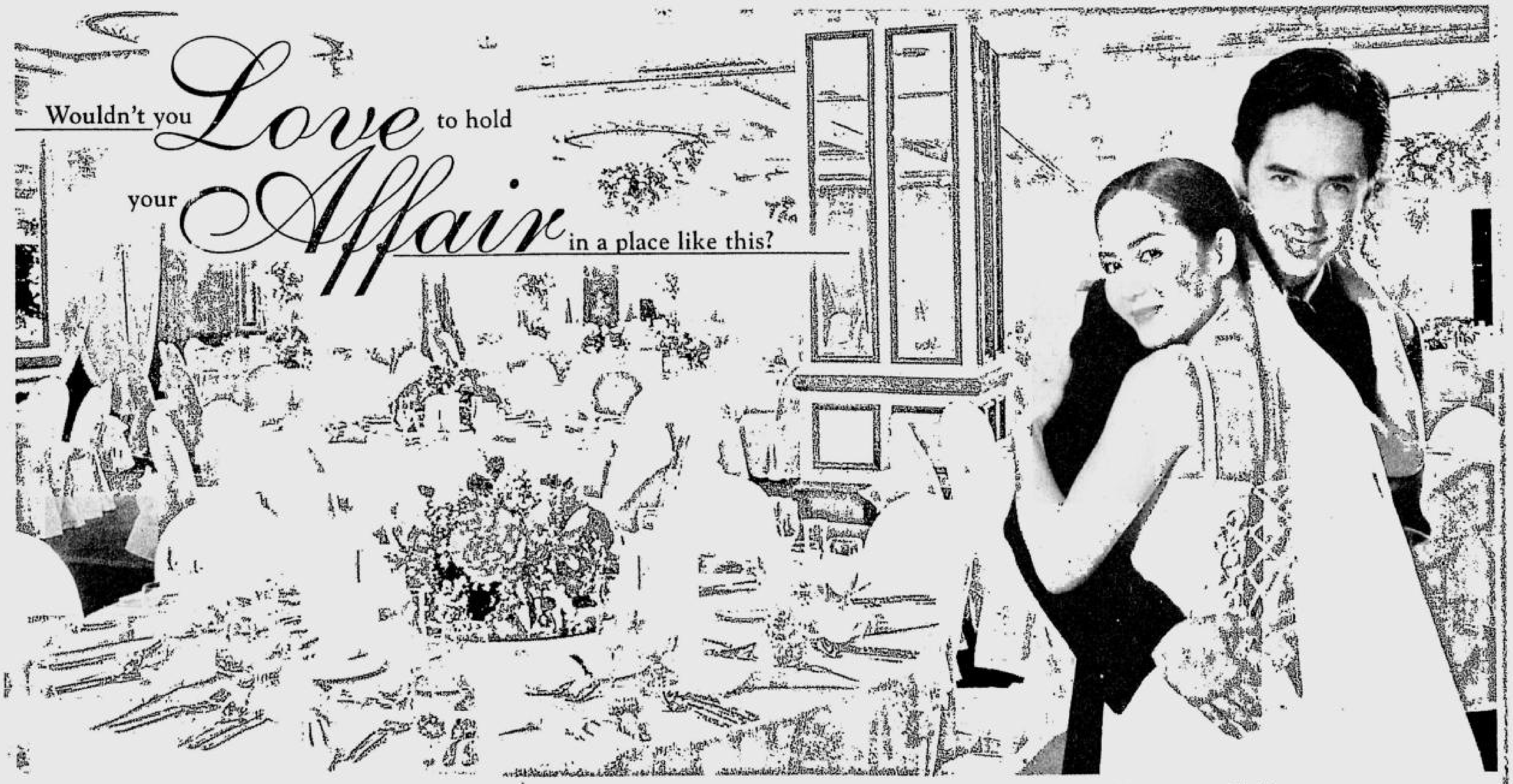

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Some new (and old) kids on the block

(From page C3)

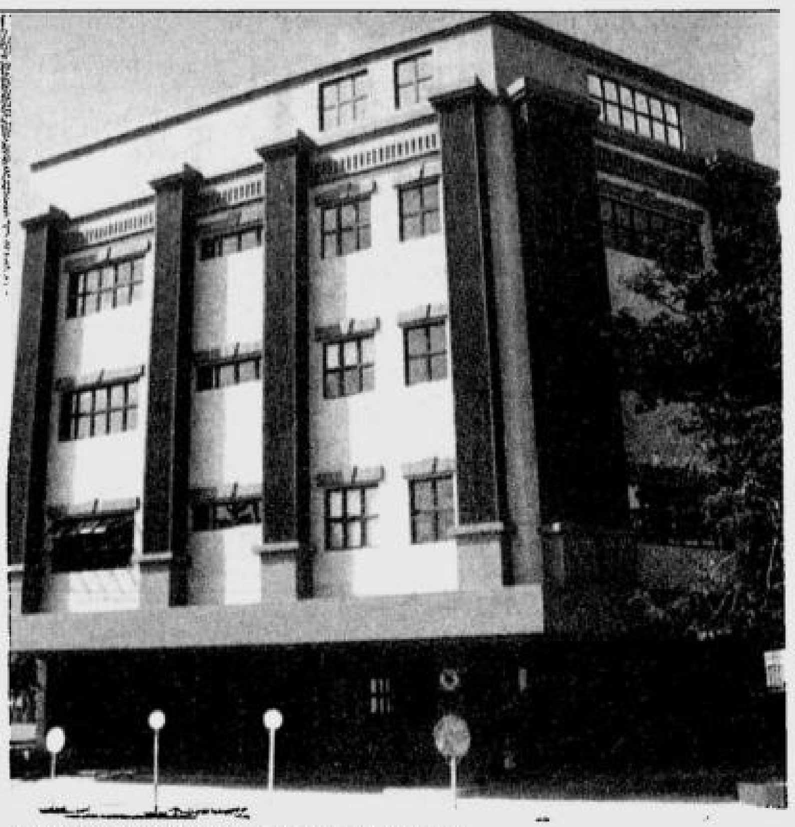
ratio. Offers regular courses for preschool, grade school and high school. TNJCA follows the prescribed DECS curriculum and successfully integrates Christian values. Located in Cubao, Quezon City. Call 725-3114.

Elementary schools

British School Manila. Provides the highest standard of British education in Manila. Offers world-class education and has state-of-the-art facilities which include a complete high school. Campus is set to open in September in Fort Bonifacio. Small class sizes with a multicultural setting. Facilities include air-conditioned classrooms, a special art and design studio, an auditorium, a swimming complex, soccer pitch, basketball/netball courts and tennis courts. Strong emphasis is placed on self-discipline and children are instilled with the values of independence, responsibility and sensitivity. Call 824-7305.

Sophia School. Takes a holistic developmental approach toward education. Located in Meycauayan, Bulacan. Accepts students from nursery to grade six. Call 044-228-2413

READING nook at Sunshine Nursery School



FACADE of Sisfu building in Las Piñas

Temple Hill International School. A nonstock, nonprofit educational institution that adheres to international standards and the Montessori system of education. A sister school of the Philippine Montessori Center in White Plains. Has state-of-the-art facilities and uses the Montessori elementary curriculum. Kumon Math and English are offered as after-school programs at no extra cost. Temple Hill endeavors to develop all the faculties of the human being—physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual. Directress and head teacher were trained at Washington Montessori Institute and Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland. Accepting students from grade one to grade six Very exclusive. Total student population is geared at 70. Located in Cainta, Rizal. Call 656-4742.

High school and college

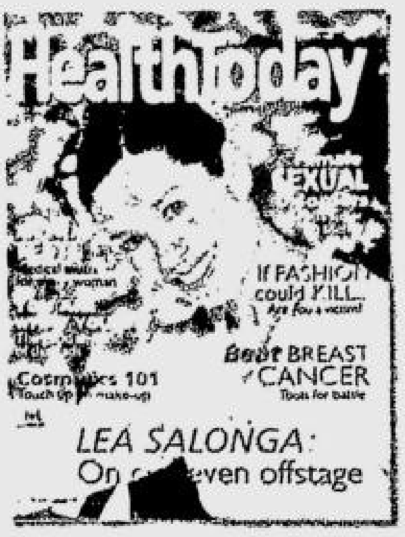
Donum Dei Academy. Specializes in comparative and developmental education. Small teacher-student ratio at 1:10. Directress is formerly a New York state clinician and health educator. Located in San Juan, call 744-4093.

Southville Int'l School affiliated with Foreign Universities (SISFU). Uses the London City College curricula. Offering courses in international business, international marketing and advertising and public relations management. Located in Las Piñas City. Call 820-5952 or e-mail sisfu@sville.edu.ph

Enrichment education

FastracKids. An enrichment education center using a unique teaching method developed by child education specialist Dr. Johann DeBeer, who based his studies on research by Howard Gardiner. Geared for 3-6-year-olds, lessons are on a CD-ROM which is projected on a touch-sensitive whiteboard. Thus, children can participate in the lessons even if they cannot read or write yet. Employs a technique called "Zigzag Learning," which is based on the premise that young children's attention span is only two to two and a half minutes. Subjects covered are astronomy, literature, speech, drama and art, biology, math, natural science, communication and creativity. Call 421-0715 or 913-9817.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph



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Nickelodeon rolls out new programming blocks

NICKELODEON, the TV channel for kids, has recently launched a series of new programming blocks- "Nick Jr.," "GAS" and "Toons on Toast"—in its commitment to deliver the best lineup of programs created just for kids.

"Nick Jr.," targeted to preschoolers aged 2-5, features "Blues Clues," "Eureeka's Castle," "Gullah Gullah Island" and a brand-new series, "Little Bill."

The No. 1 Nick preschool show and winner of the Parents Choice Gold Award, "Blue's Clues" features an animated girl puppy, Blue, and her human friend, Steve, who invite viewers to interact and learn through play. The series has made strides in preschool television by exploring advanced subject matter such as sign language, geography, physics, emotions and anatomy

"Eureeka's Castle" features Eureeka, a wizard in training who lives in a puppet world filled with music, laughter and stories that gets viewers to dance and sing along.

In "Gullah Gullah Island," with stars Ron and Natalie Daise, welcome preschoolers to their home for songs, stories and friendship.

The critically acclaimed new series, "Little Bill," follows the adventures of an inquisitive, energetic and highly imaginative 5-year-old boy as he investigates the world, with the help of his family and friends. Little Bill explores the ordinary and extraordinary events that make up the daily life of a child. The show and character reflect the wisdom and humor of its creator, Bill Cosby.

Nick Jr. can be seen weekdays 9-11 a.m.

For exciting action and edge-of-your-seat competition, "GAS (Games and Sports)" offers thrills and spills through "Global Guts," "Double Dare 2000," "Legends of the Hidden Temple" and "Figure it Out."

"Global Guts" is the game show that makes sport fantasies come true for kids from around the world in wacky out-of-this-world sporting events. Home of slime, "Double Dare 2000" challenges kids and their families mentally and physically for a crack at the ultimate challenge, the "slobstacle" course. "Legends of the Hidden Temple" features mystery themes and physical action where two teams of kids compete to find an ancient artifact hidden on the set of a Mayan ruin. Each quest is based on a real legend.

Hosted by former US Olympic champion Summer Sanders, "Figure It Out" features Nick stars guessing each contestant's hidden talents—inhaling watermelon in record time, gracefully dancing on African stilts, attaching a lizard to your tongue. Did you know kids do such cool stuff?

"GAS" is on weekdays 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.

To get your day started right, "Toons on Toast" serves up Nickelodeon's most popular animation shows in the morning with "Rugrats," "Hey Arnold!," "The Wild Thornberrys" and "CatDog."

Health officials are worried over antibiotic misuse

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

IF the problem of antibiotic resistance due to misuse and overuse is now considered a "looming crisis" in the US, it can be worse in the Philippines where these drugs are easily available everywhere. You don't even have to go to the drugstore. Antibiotics are available at neighborhood *sari-sari* stores, and even in some bus terminals!

It is a major concern that local health officials should look into. Their counterparts in the US health department are really worried this time about the increasing resistance of disease-causing germs to drugs. According to recent reports, there are now five types of bacteria strains that have become resistant to all available antibiotics.

In addition to that, more than two-thirds of the bacterial infections acquired in hospitals and about half of the common bacterial infections in outpatients do not respond anymore to at least one of the antibiotics that used to work.

Aggressive promotion by marketers and irresponsible prescription by doctors are blamed for the increasing misuse of antibiotics. Here in the Philippines, many consumers are to blame for considering any antibiotic as an all-cure treatment. For example, it is widely used to treat cold or flu, but because these are caused by viruses and not by bacteria, antibiotic is useless and will only breed resistant germs.

Health department warns drugstores

A timely warning comes from Department of Health officials against drugstores that sell prescription medicine without a doctor's written prescription order. These profit-first-consumers-be-damned drugstores can lose their license if they persist in violating the law.

According to Dr. Kenneth Go of the national drug policy office, prescription drugs are issued by the doctor for the following reasons: to adjust dosage of medicine as required by patient's condition; validate compliance of patient; check for side effects or adverse drug reaction; or, shift to another medicine when the original drug is no longer effective.

"Drugstore owners and their pharmacists should live up to their moral and professional responsibilities by refusing to sell prescription drugs to buyers who cannot produce a doctor's prescription order," Dr. Go said. They should look beyond profit and consider that patients may suffer harm and spend precious money unnecessarily.

Smoking near gas station

THERE should be a law that will prohibit smoking at those fast-food establishments and convenience shops in the vicinity of gasoline stations. Here's a valid concern by customers of Shell Magallanes Station. We thank Javier Vincent Rufino for forwarding to us the letter of Shell customer O. Villaluz.

Last May 25, Villaluz and his family witnessed groups of customers smoking cigarettes and drinking beer at the tables outside select store. Villaluz commented: "Common sense dictates that cigarettes with alcohol in a gas station don't mix. It is understandable for people to relax on a Friday night and have a few beers and smokes. But doing this in a gas station while people are having their fuel tanks loaded is unnerving!

The following day, Villaluz was having his car refueled alongside a van when he saw its owner lighting up a cigarette. He and his wife called the man's attention to the potential hazard only to get the following reply, "It's okay, I am not using a lighter or a match."

When Villaluz called the attention of the gasoline boy to the hazard, the boy simply shrugged a cold shoulder and said, " I already told him and he wouldn't listen to me."

More complaints from consumers

FROM ALVIN Chingcuanco: "I wish Nike Philippines will give better treatment to loyal customers. My friend bought P4,000 worth of items at the grand Nike sale last May 18, only to find out later that the items were too big for him. On the second day, I was with him when we asked the sale supervisor to change the items. But we were told of the no-return-no-exchange policy because he said it was a sale event. The supervisor also said that my friend could try his luck and see if he can change the item. But he was told he had to join the long queue to find out."

Emma Remo (Philets '61) commented that Bench is spending a lot for advertising its products, yet it doesn't check the quality of all its merchandise. She wrote: "My daughter had paid P450 for a Bench blouse when we found its defect. The blouse was dark violet. But thread on the label was beige and streaks of the thread lined different areas of the blouse, obviously a defect in the dye. The blouse was also crumpled. The saleslady changed the defective blouse five times, each one had defect. We eventually got a refund, but we had to fight for it.

E-mail the author at mgiron@csi.com.ph

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A night of music with Akafellows

GET ready for a night of familiar mood music in a fresh exciting concert by the singing sensation Akafellows.

Join them on June 8, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Equitable PCI, Francisco Santiago Hall Auditorium as they perform your favorite pop, R&B and dance hits in their entertaining delivery—Akafellows style.

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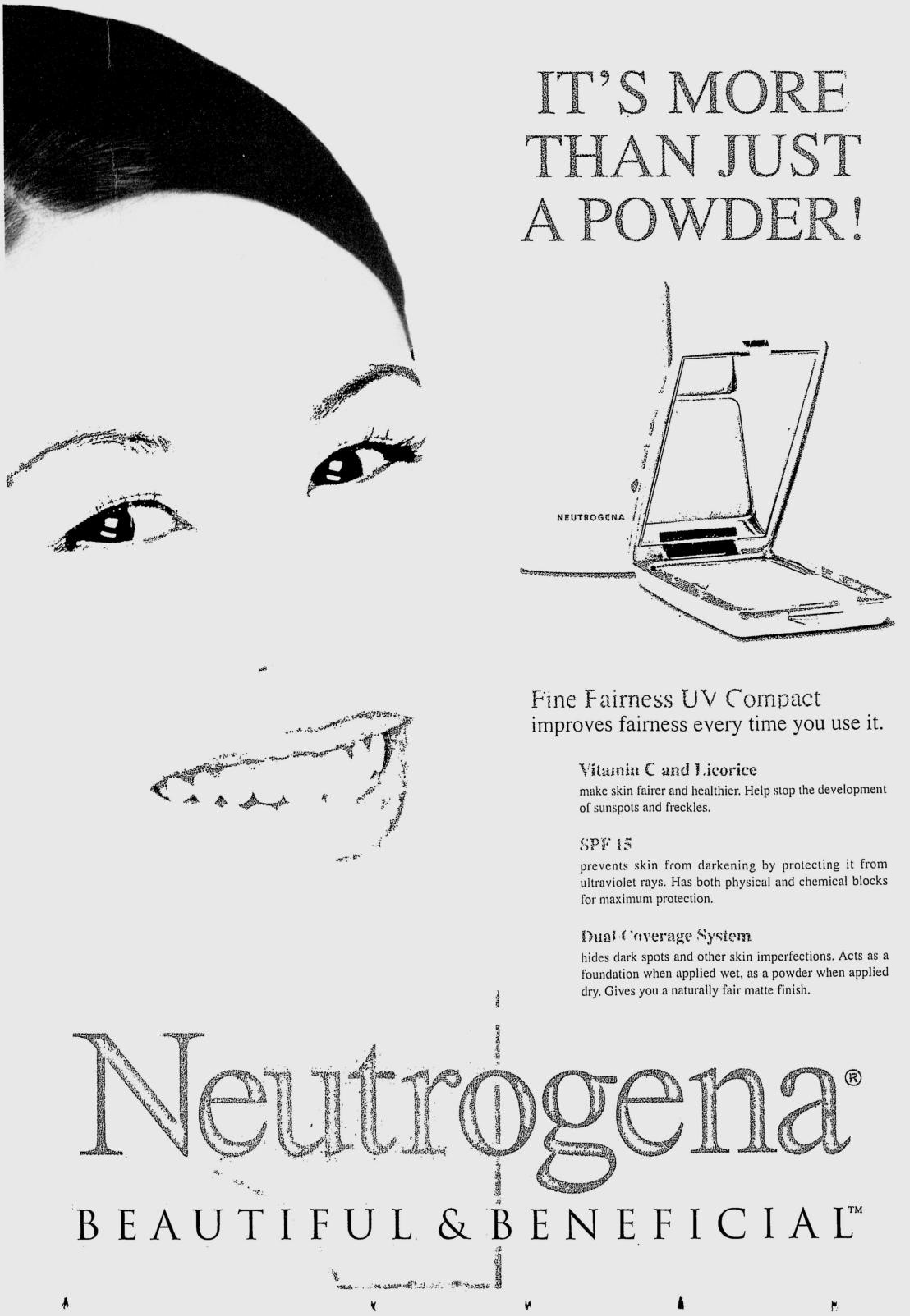
Programs for women and couples

ST. Scho Center of Spirituality in Tagaytay City presents its programs especially for women and couples seeking a time and place for quiet prayer and renewal. Most weekends are designed for small groups of 15-20 women to allow for greater depth and discussion as well as to respond to individual needs. Special seminars for couples and parents will also be held.

Reservations can be made for individuals or groups. Those interested could reserve for slots or an entire module. Participants should be in the Center of Spirituality by 5 p.m. of the first day. St. Scholastica's Center of Spirituality is in Iruhin West, Tagaytay City. Call (046) 4131-535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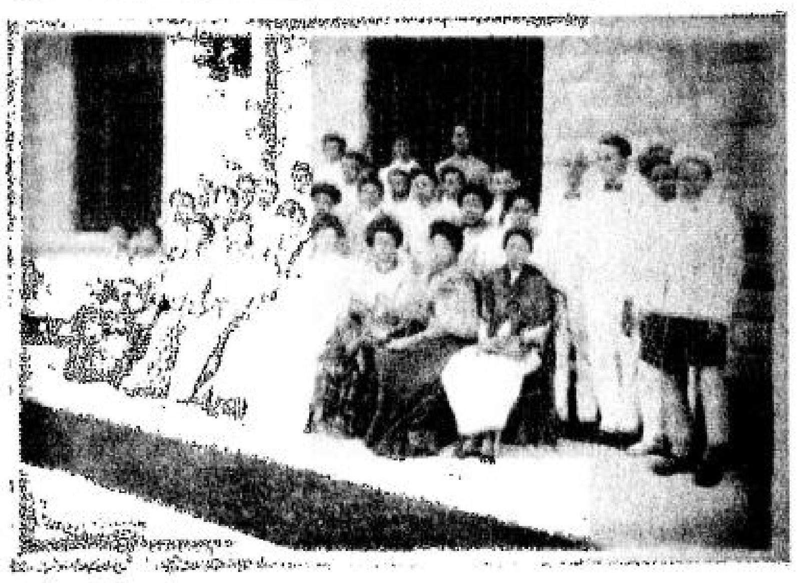
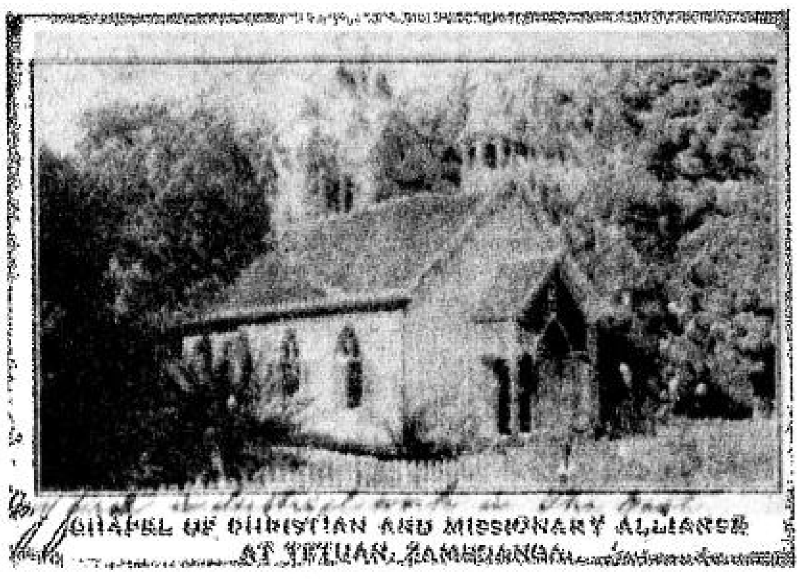


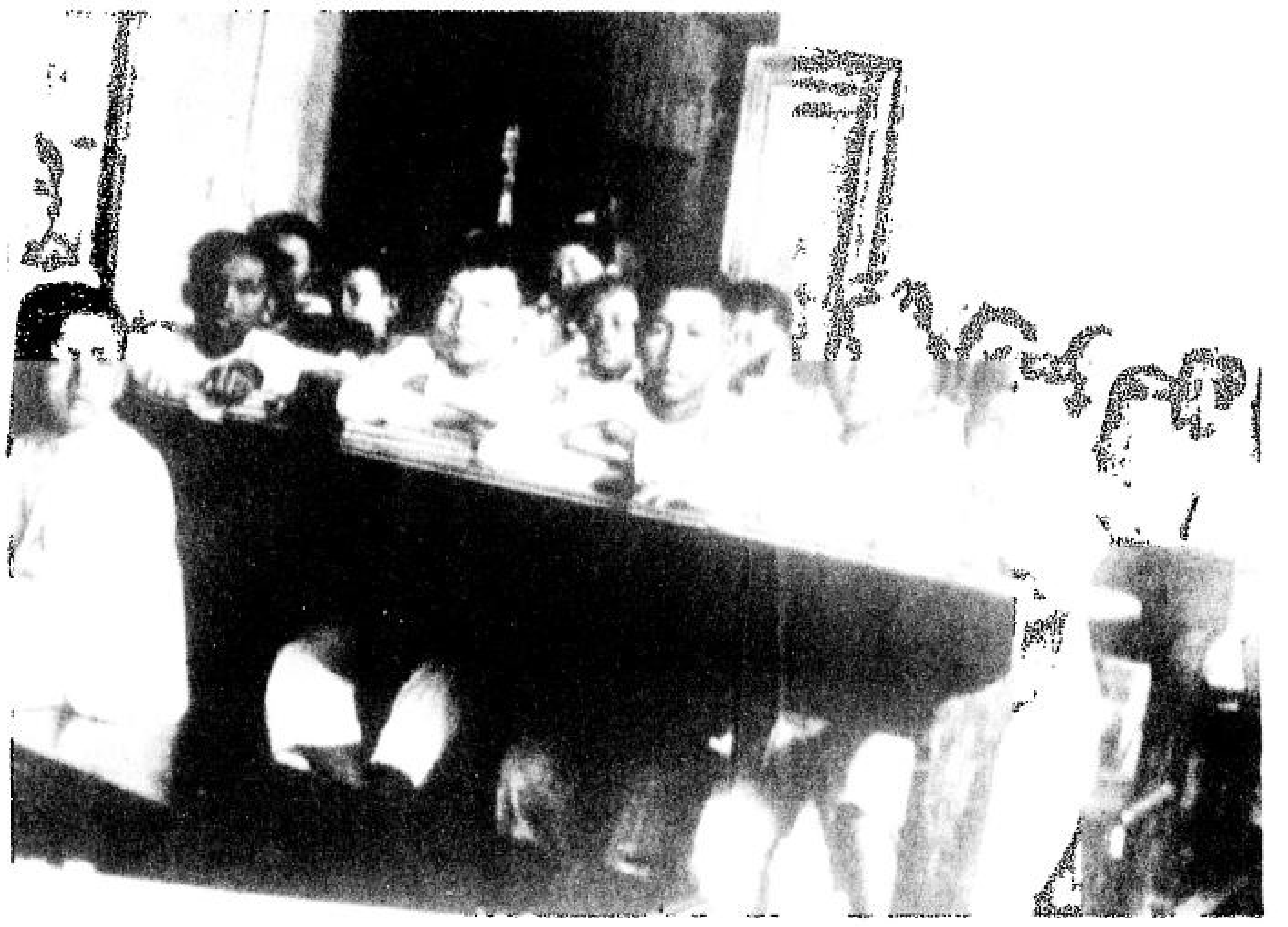
CHARLES Gustaf Carlson and the teachers he helped train in Zamboanga



THE CHURCH Carlson built in Tetuan, Zamboanga

CARLSON with wife Eugenia (middle) and their three children

A is for apple, B is for boy . . . T is for Thomasites



BRIGHT faces eager to learn

(From page C1)

going to receive their salaries and allowances on time. It was a good thing the storekeeper had been generous enough in extending credit. No mention was made if anyone had to peddle *tocino* and Avon products to make ends meet.

Sounds familiar? These are no horror stories based on recent events. Nor are they figments of a disgruntled teacher's imagination. Rather, these accounts were culled from the diaries of Mary Fee, a young American teacher who taught Filipino children almost 100 years ago, when America became a certified world power by virtue of acquiring the Philippines and other colonies from Spain.

Together with 503 others, Fee belonged to the second batch of educators who set sail from San Francisco to Manila on board the US Army Transport Thomas. It was the single biggest group of American teachers to come to the Philippines after the Sheridan arrived a year earlier. After several months at sea, they finally arrived in Manila in Aug. 1901

Calvert
152 BARKING ROAD
LONDON, E.

THOMASITE Charles Gustaf Carlson

American virtues

Their mission? To introduce Filipinos to the virtues of American education based on a public school system where everybody—rich or poor, the children of landlords or farmers, brown or *mestizo*—was welcomed to learn. In so doing, these pioneers invariably sowed the seeds of democracy and various nuances of American culture through the language they knew best: English. Part of their job also included training Filipinos to take over from them and become teachers.

Their motives for venturing into a strange, desolate land were as varied as the American towns and cities they came from. The Philippines offered very little of the creatures comforts they had grown accustomed to yet, for the first time in their lives, they could hire maids—a concept many of them found strange. Fee and her female colleagues, for instance, found it hard to answer nature's call inside a *batalan* with bamboo slats for its floor.

JOSELITO Aseniero

Indeed, it was no joke to do pioneering work in these tropical islands. As if the sweltering climate wasn't enough, the teachers had to contend with cultural and language barriers. Many were able to go back home, but some were overtaken by events. They either died of cholera or were killed by misguided Filipinos before they could even finish their work. Of course, some lucky ones survived and chose to stay, intermarried with Filipinos and raised their families here.

What prompted these well-educated Americans to come here in the first place? Many were lured by the call of adventure, while others were fired up by a sense of idealism. Of course, to some, it was an ideal employment opportunity that was just too good to pass up.

Although there were other teachers who arrived after Fee and her group in succeeding boats, all of them eventually came to be known collectively as the Thomasites. In fact, American teachers continued to trickle into the country until 1935 when it became a US Commonwealth.

The Thomasites, incidentally, replaced soldiers who were earlier tasked to double as teachers after pacifying a restive nation agitating for independence. These teachers, most of whom were white, fanned out to various parts of the country building schools, teaching students and developing communities to prepare the country for eventual independence.

Harbingers

Based on America's conviction that a strong democracy rests not just on an educated few, the Thomasites became harbingers of mass education in the country as they taught their students not just to memorize but to think for themselves, thus enabling them to assert their inherent worth as individuals. Filipino children eventually blossomed into outspoken and analytical individuals, and they carried this new outlook into their homes.

Never mind if the system has sometimes produced Filipinos who equate democracy with oratorical contests complete with gesticulations and a disconcerting American twang (think former senator Miriam Defender-Santiago). No system is perfect. But as a whole, America's contribution to our education is light years away from the parochial, at times condescending, views fed to us by Spain.

To mark the centennial of the Thomasites' arrival in the Philippines, various organizations and agencies led by the Public Affairs Section of the Embassy of the United States have launched the Thomasite Centennial Project. From July to October, the group has lined up a series of activities to honor the teachers' memories and contributions to the country.

> Arguably the prototype of the Peace Corps, the Thomasites were young Americans who used education to conquer the hearts and minds of Filipinos, for better or for worse

These include traveling exhibits, a display of Thomasite artifacts at the National Museum and a film showing of Mike Magnaye's "Good Morning, Mrs. Kelly." The documentary shows actual footages of Thomasites as they embarked on their mission here. Magnaye is a Filipino-American who has won an award in the Sundance Film Festival.

Playwright Tony Perez and stage director Nonon Padilla will collaborate on a play based on a teacher's life in the Philippines. "Isang Daang Awit ni Mary Fee" will be staged at the CCP sometime in October. The series will be capped by an international conference to assess America's contribution to Philippine education. Foreign and local scholars will participate in the gathering.

Website

One of the group's first projects has been the launching of a website where users can download such information as a calendar of events. University of the Philippines professor and former Fulbright scholar Dr. Judy Ick is the project's director. Ick, by the way, isn't a Thomasite descendant, but one of her great grandfathers was a US soldier from Pennsylvania who decided to live here for good.

"Based on Fee's accounts," says Ick, "it seems nothing much has changed. Our teachers today face similar obstacles as the Thomasites faced. Even *dagdag-bawas* isn't a recent development since Fee experienced it for herself and in the classroom at that."

But whether we like or not, she adds, a great part of our education system is patterned after America's. In fact, if not for America's pioneering efforts in education, there would be no UP to speak of today. The country's premier state university was established in 1908, soon after an integrated and comprehensive educational system in the country had been fully in place.

JUDY Ick

JOHNNY VILLENA

As an educator, Ick is aware of Filipinos' love-hate relationship with America. To most people who lived before and soon after the war, American educators were "gods" who could do no wrong. A generation later, they were vilified and the system they represented seen as an instrument of the "devil." Well, what does she think?

"It's high time we look at it from both sides in a sober and rational approach," she says. "After all, it has been 100 years since the first American teachers came here. Whether it was good or bad, it doesn't matter. The point is it has become so much a part of us. What do we do with it from hereon."

History, of course, goes beyond a listing of places and dates. The past is best viewed and appreciated in the eyes of the people it has spawned. The event has also spurred interest among surviving descendants of Thomasites to meet regularly and share experiences. They have yet to agree on a name for the organization, but acting president Joselito Aseniero, great grandson of Thomasite Charles Gustaf Carlson, a Swedish-American engineer and Christian pastor, is heartened at the warm response.

Surviving Thomasites

Most of the surviving descendants of the Thomasites now belong to the third and fourth generations. Like Aseniero, many of them never had the chance to meet their American ancestors in person. Just the same, they're proud to bask in their forebears' achievements from stories handed down by their elders.

"My grandfather was a renaissance man," says Aseniero. "He was a teacher, engineer, poet, farmer, shipbuilder and [illegible] into one. Unfortunately, he died [illegible] if I didn't get the chance to know him personally, my mother and her siblings kept his memory alive. I believe I imbibed my unexplained love for boats from him."

One of the most touching moments in the family's life was when George, Aseniero's younger brother, was able to trace their *Lolo* Charles' family in Soderhamn, Sweden. Clutching a letter written by Charles' father to him decades ago, George, who was studying in Sweden, walked the same bridge [illegible] vividly described in the letter by his *lolo sa t*[illegible] great grandfather) to locate his Swedish relatives. The Carlsons had moved elsewhere, but because of his persistence George was able to track them down. The two branches of the family [illegible] since kept in touch through letters and [illegible] calls.

One of Aseniero's cousins, [illegible]ou Falkman even visited Dakak and other parts of Zamboanga, where Charles, as a young man, settled and married Eugenia Enriquez almost 90 years ago. Ingeborg, their second daughter and Aseniero's mother, also got the chance to visit Sweden to pay respects at the graves of the grandparents she never had the chance to meet. If he can have his way, Aseniero plans to extend the organization's membership to descendants of American soldiers and civil servants as well.

"The United S[illegible] has given us many things," says Aseniero, pr[illegible] of As[illegible] Manufacturing Corp. "One of [illegible] [illegible]eate[illegible] [illegible]tributions to our country is educati[illegible] Not ju[illegible] kind of education, mind you, but [illegible] American educational system that has served us well." Mary Fee and her colleagues must be smiling from ear to ear in the great classroom beyond. Their dreams and sacrifices were not all in vain.

Call Joselito Aseniero or Vivian Millet at 63 3363 to 66 or log on at www.thomasites100.or for more information

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.p

THOMASITE teachers and Fil-Am baby

INGEBORG Carlson Aseniero with daughter Marlene Garcia, grandson David Aseniero and Swedish relative Malou Falkman

Thomasites

THOMASITE Centennial Project poster

JOHNNY VILLENA

Parade of blooming 'reinas' and 'sagalas'

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

INGRID Sala Santamaria reigned as Reina Emperatriz in the Santacruzan staged by the Cebu Plaza Hotel and the Clothes For Life Foundation headed by **Philip Rodriguez**. It is the organization to which every prominent fashion name in Cebu belongs. The sprawling property of the Cebu Plaza lent itself grandly for a procession from the Lantaw garden to the main building.

It all started with a solemn Mass by Fr. **Rod Salazar** who eloquently spoke of the symbolism of the celebration. Cebu's legion of flower growers brought down from the mountain slopes of Busay masses of blooms to adorn the magnificent arches used by more than 30 *reinas* and *sagalas*. Coming from Cebu's best families, the participants attracted quite a crowd that lined the path of the pageant. Bugles blew, fireworks lit the sky and great applause rose every time a beauty passed by.

Guests with tickets filled the grand foyer of the hotel where the action would take place, and where a dais held thrones for every participant. Lush *kamuning* leaves and hundreds of white fragrant *calachuchi* made a perfect foil. **Michael Go** of Standard Chartered Bank was asked to be the toastmaster who announced the various highlights.

The strings from the Peace Philharmonic played lilting tunes for about an hour. **Aissa de la Cruz**, PR manager of the hotel, donned in Cebu lace by **Felix Yu**, gave the rationale of the Santacruzan. It commemorates the finding of the true cross by St. Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine who institutionalized Christianity as the religion of the empire.

One by one the *reinas* and *sagalas* were called and made a grand entrance down the sweeping staircase decorated with flowers and more flowers. **Salvador Cornelio**, GM of the hotel, presented a bouquet to **Amparito Lhuillier**, Reina Emperatriz 2000. She in turn also presented flowers to her successor, Ingrid. A program of Cebuano dances was performed by **Val** and **Ophelia Sandiego** with their children, cousins and friends forming their troupe. They also brought their antique image of the Virgin Mary, borne on the shoulder of strong young men, to receive homage from more than 20 little girls dressed as angels. It was like seeing a Flores de Mayo in some far-flung parish way back in time.

The evening's climax was "Baile sa Plaza," for which **Benjie Diola** took Ingrid to trip the light fantastic along with a dozen other couples. **Junjet Primor** choreographed the dance. Kudos for having coordinated the whole event as well. At exactly 7 p.m. the program was over and the buffet was announced. The Plaza presented over 40 dishes, the best of Filipino cuisine.

Ingrid looked radiant all throughout for having her family around her. Her son **Joey Santamaria** was her escort, daughter **Cathy Santamaria Escaño** reigned as the Reina Elena with her son **Ignacio** as the Emperador Constantino; other daughter, **Cecille Santamaria Nubla** (who resides in Cebu) was Reina del Sol; and Joey's pretty wife, **Cathy Palanca Santamaria**, figured in the procession as Reina de las Estrellas.

Participants (in no particular order) included **Danielle Gonzalez** as Reina Banderada; **Michelle Diseaya**, Reina Abogada; **Cherrie Mae Castillo**, Reina Senteneiada; **Nena Kokseng**, Reina Justicia; **Jessica Shaw**, Reina Libertad; **Abigail Ngo**, Reina Fe; **Kay Mercado**, Reina de la Nieve; **Melissa Unchauna**, Reina de los Corazones; **Tricia Gullas**, Reina Caridad; **Luisa Frasco**, Reina Paz.

More: **Katrina Ros**, Reina de los Martires, **Jennifer Lee Novo**, Reina Samaritana; **Elaine Ezpeleta**, Reina Esperanza; **Joy Arriba Rosales**, La Divina Pastora; **Leslie Reyes**, Reina Mora; **Andrea Dunlop**, Reina de Sheba, **Janet Co**, Maria Marta; **Gail Soco**, Maria Magdalena; **Aisha Medina**, Maria Salome; **Maritess Westehuff**, Reina Esther.

In close succession came good friends **Inma Losada** as Reina de los Angeles, escorted by **Marty Manguera**, and **Mia Zamora** as Reina de las Flores, with **Joe Franz Cañizares**. **Alma Gillamac** was Reina del Rosario, while her daughter **Judyflor** was Reina del Cielo. **Jazel Flores** was Rosa Mystica; **Junabelle Cuenco**, Reina del Mundo; **Faith Balaga**, the Morning Star, and **Alayne Cañizares**, Reina de la Luna.

Philip Rodriguez and the rest of Clothes For Life deserve heaps of congratulations (enumerated at random): **Jill Gaite** of En Sepia, **Protacio**, **Marichu Tan**, **Minnie Yuviengco**, **Harley Ruedas**, **Felix Yu**, **Joy Bernaldez**, **Sal Malto**, **Albert Arriva**, **Jed Sevilla**, **Wendell Quisido**, **Leonardo Igloria**, **William Manahan**, **Arcy Gayatin**, **Jun-Jun Escario**, **Oj Hofer**, **Ren Manabat**, **Peewee Senining**, **Emi Ayag**, **Dexter Alazas**, **Brian Aloquin**.

Plans are underway for next year's "Santacruzan sa Cebu Plaza." DOT's **Dan Roa** promises to print posters for distribution worldwide. A special promo will come from Philippine Airlines, whose Cebu manager **Celso Dapo** graciously granted a round-trip ticket from Cebu to Hong Kong for the raffle, which was won by **Resty Wenberg**.

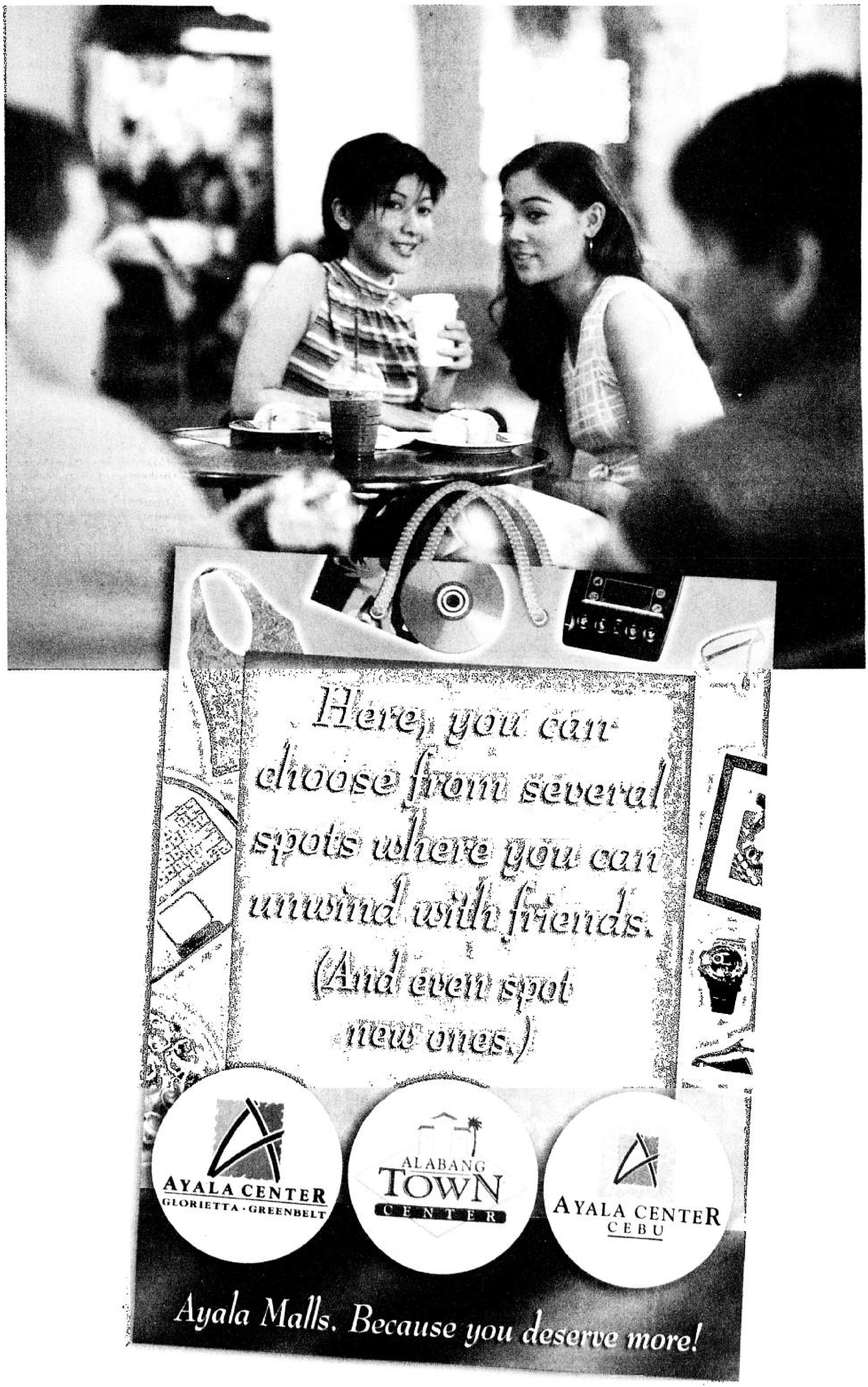
Looking at calendar 2002 **Salvador Cornelio** and Aissa de la Cruz better tell **Teresing Mendezona** because the persistent buzz all over the Visayas and Mindanao is that she is the next Reina Emperatriz. Cartier has already been notified for the tiara.

BENJIE Diola leads Ingrid Santamaria for the royal dance.

CATHY Palanca Santamaria as Reina de las Estrellas, with her son Jaime, Cecille Santamaria Nubla as Reina del Sol, Ingrid Sala Santamaria as Reina Emperatriz and Cathy Santamaria Escaño as Reina Elena, with her son Ignacio as Emperador Constantino

MICHEL and Amparito Lhuillier with Teresing Mendezona

INMA Lozada as Reina de los Angeles, with Marty Manquerra as her escort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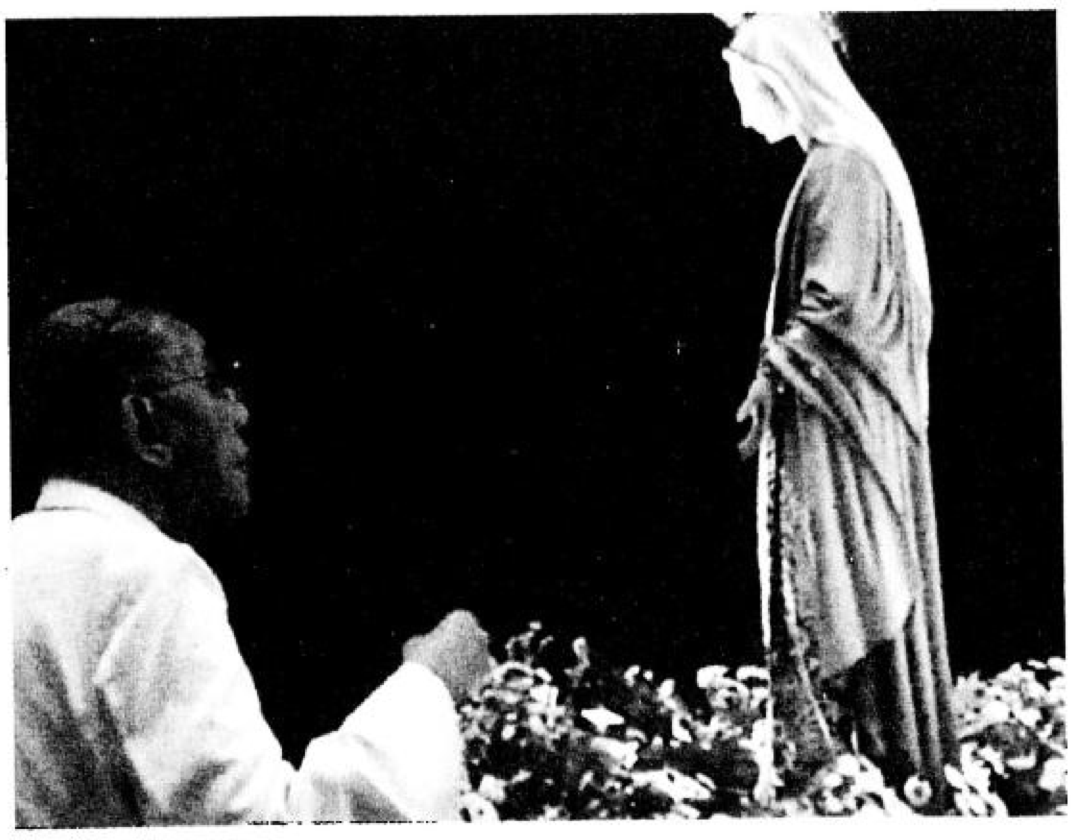
A faithful alliance

Jaime Cardinal Sin's love affair with a lady has defined Philippine history in the last 25 years



BY DON G. RAPADAS

TWENTY-FIVE years as a cardinal and a couple of years more as archbishop of Manila, Jaime Cardinal Sin has endured four Philippine presidents, withstood martial rule, fathered two People Power revolts and ushered in the local Catholic Church into the new millennium.

He has received several honorary doctorates and a number of civil and ecclesiastical accolades, including the distinct honor of being named as one of the Top 100 Catholics of the past century, joining the ranks of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Pope John Paul II.

But the Cardinal is not just fame and all. Behind the cloth is a man very much like us, subject to human frailty but strong in purpose and character. He has been as much celebrated as criticized. But no doubt he is an icon in Philippine history. What could be behind his success? What keeps him unfazed in the midst of sociopolitical and moral turmoil in our society?

The answers may vary, but the Cardinal would humbly refer to that one, eminent model of a true Christian, with whom he has nurtured a strong and lasting relationship all these years.

The Cardinal of Manila is not just a prince of the Church or a man of peace; he is also a devoted child of Mary.

As we mark the 25th anniversary of Jaime Sin as a cardinal, it is interesting to note how this man and the Mother of God have worked closely in directing the history of our nation. It is the story of a faithful alliance.

Early years

Jaime Lachica Sin is the son of Juan Sin, a Chinese merchant from Amoy, South China, and Maxima Lachica, a native of Kalibo, Aklan, and a member of the landed gentry. He is the seventh among nine siblings of five boys and four girls.

Jaime or Amie (his childhood alias) had shown early signs of a desire for priesthood. He and his younger brother, Ramon, would reenact the celebration of the Holy Mass, with him acting as the priest and little Ramon as his sacristan.

Although the priestly vocation runs in the family (Jaime's uncle, Gabriel Reyes, was the first Filipino archbishop of Manila), his father initially resisted the idea because he wanted him to become a businessman. It was his mother who insisted (and even made the entire family swear at her deathbed) that young Jaime be educated for the priesthood.

Jaime entered the Vincentian-run minor seminary of San Vicente Ferrer in Jaro, Iloilo, at age 11. A model seminarian throughout his priestly formation, Jaime was smart in class, devout in chapel, popular in company and rugged on the playing field. The ideal combination was brain, brawn, charm and piety. But though his grades were excellent, his career at the seminary was not exactly brilliant. He had occasional asthma attacks that often sent him to the infirmary and made him doubt his fitness for the vocation.

It was his devotion to the Blessed Mother that sustained him. One afternoon, when his fellow seminarians were on with their choral exercise, Jaime slipped from the infirmary to their chapel. He placed a note under the image of Our Lady, Mediatrix of All Graces, and went back to his room.

The note expressed the touching faith of a child in his mother. Jaime, battling with illness, entrusted his vocation to the Mother of God. On April 3, 1954, he was ordained priest at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Roxas City, Capiz.

Father Jaime must have known it was the beginning of an illustrious priestly career that would be marked by several Marian interventions.

After ministering from 1954-57 to the barrios in the mountains, Sin was appointed as the first rector of St. Pius X Seminary in Roxas City. He worked to gain government recognition of the seminary program. On March 18, 1967, Sin was appointed auxiliary to the archbishop of Jaro and was named coadjutor archbishop with right of succession on March 18, 1972.

It was barely two years after his installation in Jaro when Sin learned that Pope Paul VI had appointed him to the Episcopal chair in Manila—the archdiocese under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception and whose founding anniversary falls on the Feast of the Assumption, Aug. 15.

Champion of democracy

There is a distinctly personal dimension to Sin's work as a prelate. He opened the doors of his residence to the people, delegated some of his responsibilities to capable individuals so that he might have time to visit parishes, talk with those who wish to see him personally and answer letters, even unofficial ones sent to him.

But perhaps he would best be remembered for his strong advocacy of freedom—freedom to do good to express one's ideas responsibly and to involve oneself in nation building. He was the champion o democracy during the dark era of martial law in the Philippines.

The Cardinal was adamant. Through prayer an discernment, and with the guidance of theologian and experts, he would be assured that his action were moral and pleasing in God's eyes.

In what many called a prophetic move, Cardin Sin consecrated the entire Filipino nation to the Ir maculate Heart of Mary in the Marian Year of 198 It was a providential event, as the snap electior would later on be called by President Ferdinar Marcos to reaffirm his clout.

Then came what was considered as the fine hour in the history of the nation—the 1986 Ed People Power Revolution. Public outrage broke o after massive cheating was committed in the n tional elections. On Feb. 21, 1986, Cardinal S went on the air and called on the people to mass Edsa to defend then Defense Secretary Juan Pon Enrile and Army Vice Chief of Staff Fidel Ram from the attack of Marcos' factions in the milita after the two had attempted a coup to depose th dictator.

It was a valiant call that inspired many people t risk their lives for freedom and democracy. Tank were poised to attack the people at the first order o Marcos. Had the latter succumbed to his chief o staff, Gen. Fabian Ver, many lives would have bee lost.

But Cardinal Sin hoped in the grace of the pre ceding Marian year. He knew the Mother of God would keep her promise of bringing peace to this beleaguered nation.

And the miracle took place. Mary, Queen of Peace, walked with her children gathered at Edsa and brought the revolution and transition of power to a peaceful end. It was the fulfillment of a promise to a nation and to a man who had kept that touching faith in her all these years. Little did everyone know that it would be repeated 15 years later.

Edsa II

In August 2000, as the war in Mindanao raged the Cardinal once again consecrated the Filipino people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the war soon came to an end. Then came the infamous trial for the impeachment of former President Joseph Estrada on charges that he received illegal money from the numbers game *jueteng* and through kickback in government projects.

It was Cardinal Sin and his presbyteral council who made the very first public clamor for Estrada's resignation. It created a snowball effect that led to multisectoral efforts, including Congress, to remove him from office and on to another staging of People Power at Edsa in January.

While he knows his clout, Cardinal Sin wields it not as a politician but as one that tries to steer Filipinos into the right path by expressing what God has put in his heart. To the extent that his flock listens to him, he succeeds. And indeed it was his faithful alliance with the Mother of God that made her come to Edsa in 1986 and revisit it in January of this year. This enduring tandem continues to write history.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings & Engagements

Pitoy Moreno showcases his Filipiniana collection in Tokyo

FASHION icon Pitoy Moreno presents his Philippine costume and inspiration collection in Tokyo on June 9 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Romeo Arquelles in the exclusive American Club. The affair will coincide with the celebration of Philippine Independence Day and the Japanese-Philippine diplomatic 45th anniversary.

This cultural show was shown in Paris, Monte Carlo, New York, Washington, China, Hong Kong, Stockholm, Madrid, Bangkok, San Francisco, Singapore, Guam and several cities in the Philippines.

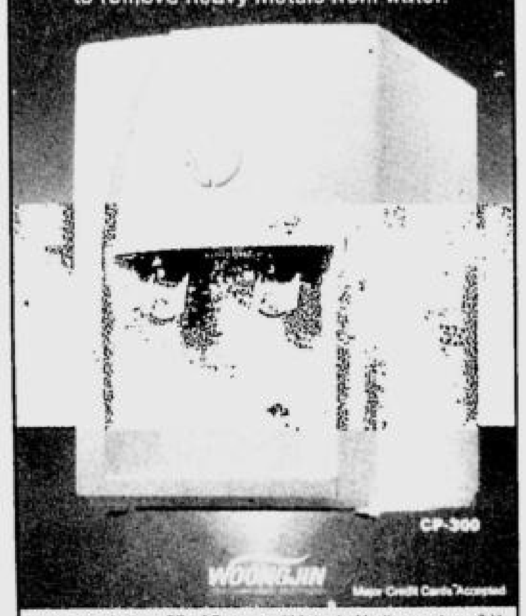
There will be two performances—one for Japanese government officials, diplomatic corps, social civic group and special guests of the embassy. The second showing will be Moreno's outreach program for Filipino overseas workers, tourist officials and other groups organized by the tourist bureau in Japan to attract Japanese tourists to the Philippines.

Moreno will bring Manila's top models and Bb. Pilipinas beauty queens. Female models are: Badette Vinalon, Lorena Pangan, Gladys Duenas, Bing Bing Pabular, Tetet Villanueva, Girhea Quinzon (Miss World), Maricar Tolosa (Miss International), Maricar Balagtas (Miss Globe), Antoinette Enciso and Ann Manalo. Male models are: Vince Hizon, Hayden Kho Jr., Jigs Fernandez, Rom Buencamino, Jason Cruz and Owen Cruz.

Choreography is by Joey Espino.

(More photos on page D2)

ANTIQUE *piña* veil with peach shadow design on the boarders with a basic gown with a short train. The headpiece of antique comb holds the beautiful embroidered veil. Worn by Bb. Pilipinas World Girhea Quinzon.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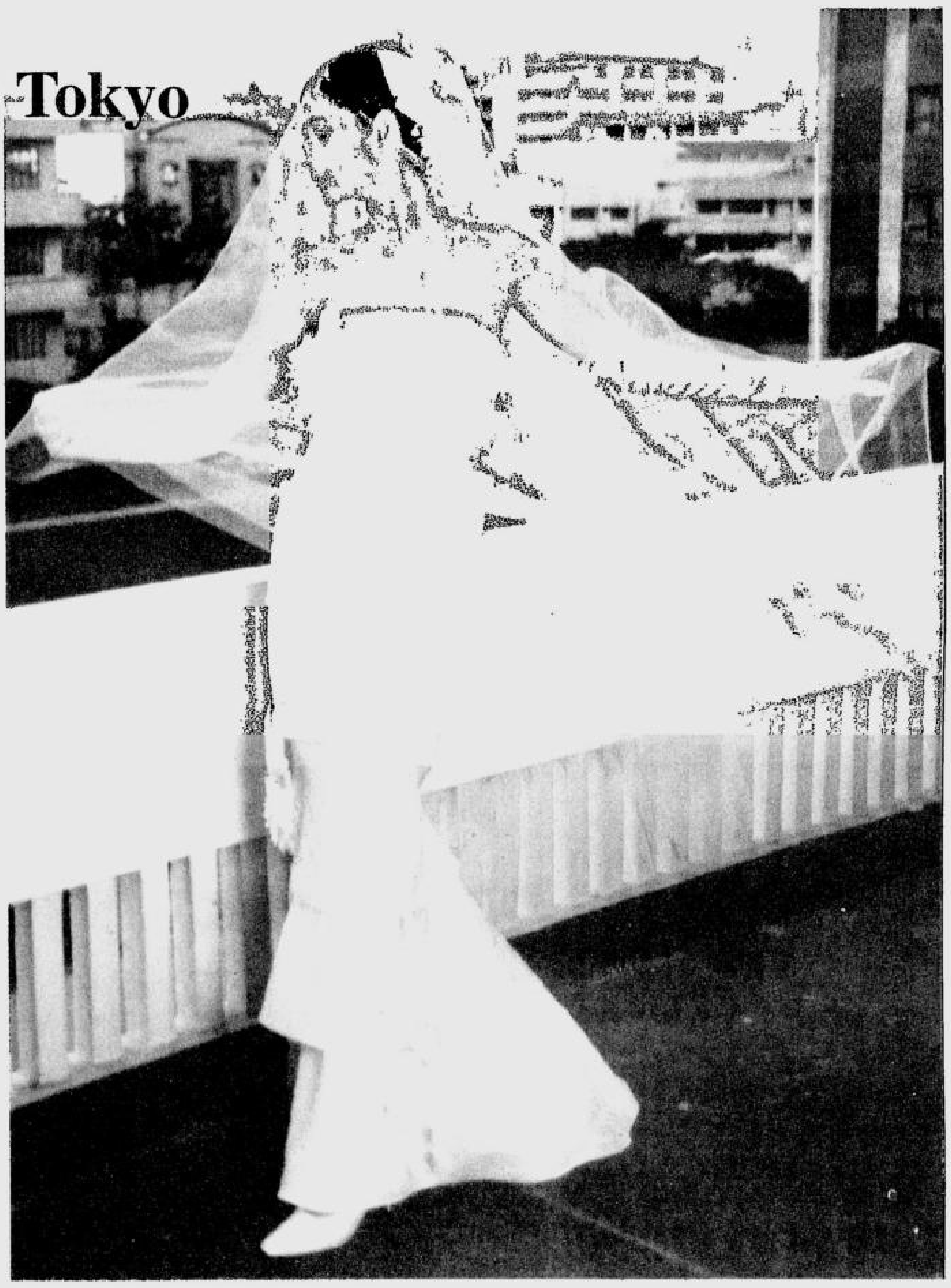
Pitoy Moreno showcases his Filipiniana collection in Tokyo

(From page D1)

BB. Pilipinas International Maricarl Tolosa in a gown with yellow tint *piña* skirt that form into geometric cutout of different embroidery that join together the intricate design. It is a simple bodice in *piña* with panel narrow strap on both sleeves. The veil has matching cutout *nakar* that blend with the skirt.

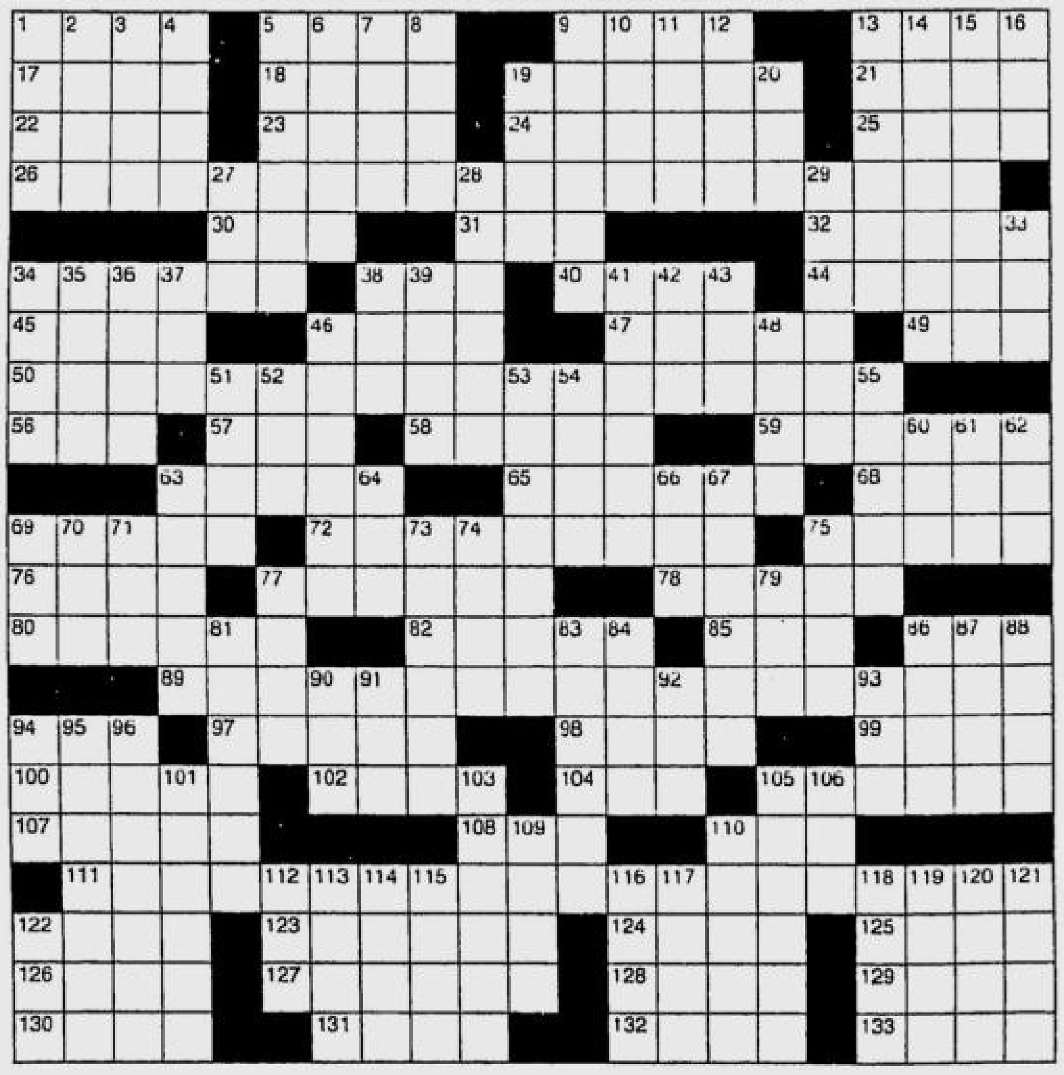


LILIES of the valley adorn the layered bias organza wedding gown on the headpiece, bodice and hemline. The gown has a simple silk illusion tulle veil. Model: Antoinette Enciso

BB. Pilipinas Globe Maricar Balagtas wearing a simple crepe gown with a see-through neckline and soft veil with Belgium embroidery design on the edge. Antique, long crystal necklace Istambul accent her simple gown.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

THE MINIMOM



ACROSS
1 Word with dance or hero
5 — Pet
9 Play thing?
13 Rushes
17 Destroy
18 "You —?" (Lurch's line)
19 Merchant
21 "— partridge in . . ."
22 Dermatological problem
23 Foot part
24 Event of 622
25 Fancy
26 Start of a remark by Roseanne
30 "Sheila" singer
31 Echidna's tidbit
32 Account entry
34 Arthurian knight
38 Dunce
40 Scandinavian capital
44 Susan Lucci role
45 Beige
46 Burly Burl
47 Black and white delight
49 Neighbor of Okla.
50 Part 2 of remark
56 Way to satori
57 Team scream
58 Light metal group?
59 Spouse of Isis
63 Football's Lavelli
65 "The Scarlet Letter" heroine
68 Curtain fabric
69 Agricultural inventor
72 Part 3 of remark
75 Tucker or Roberts
76 Land measure
77 Crops up
78 Montezuma, for one
80 Peat's place
82 Forster's "— With a View"
85 "To be sure!"
86 Shorten a skirt
89 Part 4 of remark
94 Carry to class
97 Intuit
98 Green land
99 Kruger or Gluck
100 Clumsy
102 Prune a paragraph
104 Present for pop
105 Writer Rushdie
107 Pigeonhole
108 Glowing
110 Private reply?
111 End of remark
122 Meter reader?
123 Journalist Fallaci
124 Where to speak Farsi
125 Emilia's husband
126 "— take arms against a sea . . ."
127 "The Compleat Angler" author
128 Arrogant
129 It may be bitter
130 Govt. agents
131 — -do-well
132 Actress Joyce
133 Toboggan

DOWN
1 College club
2 "That hurts!"
3 Queue
4 Had no doubts
5 Kindergarten item
6 Writer Bret
7 Foot part
8 Eastern leader
9 Rapidly, to Rossini
10 Frenzy
11 Garfield's pal
12 Gilpin of "Frasier"
13 Nautical rope
14 Check
15 Impressive building
16 TV's "My Sister —"
19 Dilute
20 Sneaky sort
27 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
28 Ornamental dangler
29 Principles
33 Duty
34 Saxophonist Stan
35 Need a rubdown
36 Small bird
37 Great bird?
38 Actress Gardner
39 Doris Day refrain
41 Cavort in the pool
42 — Cruces, NM
43 Can. province
46 '87 Warren Beatty film
48 Last name in fashion
51 "Dies —"
52 Rowan or Rather
53 Truman Cabinet member
54 Movie mogul Marcus
55 Whitman's bloomer
60 Fled
61 Frigid
62 Monsarrat's "The Cruel —"
63 Night vision?
64 Inventor Whitney
66 Actress Leoni
67 Pepsin or lipase
69 Barrier
70 Word form for "environment"
71 Goof
73 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"
74 Ralston or Miles
75 Hardy woman
77 Tennis legend
79 Golfer's gadget
81 Nervous —
83 "Swan Lake" heroine
84 1,102, to Calpurnia
86 Ian of "The Borrowers"
87 Role for 27 Down
88 Nasty
90 Sturm — Drang
91 Compass pt.
92 Mine find
93 Lyricist David
94 Coal container
95 Doughboy's duds
96 Conceal
101 Light quantum
103 Poet Wylie
105 Burnt —
106 Branch
109 Terrible name?
110 Periwinkle, for one
112 "Would you look at that!"
113 Algerian port
114 Vex
115 Winslet of "Hamlet"
116 Jackknife, e.g.
117 — surgery
118 Puppy protests
119 Monopoly destination
120 Stare salaciously
121 Daring
122 Ample abdomen

ANSWER ON PAGE D7

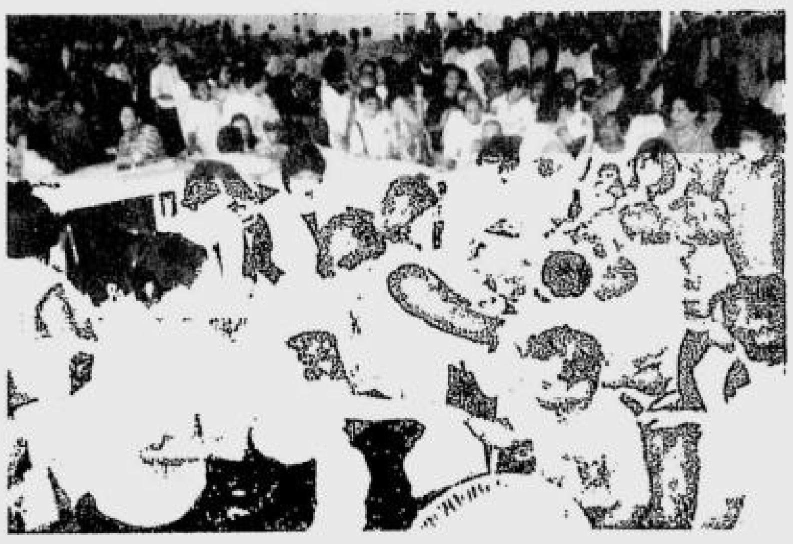
Zonta holds blood letting for Red Cross

ZONTA International is a service organization of executive women in business and the professions working together for the improvement of the status of women.

Every year, the 10 clubs under Area I undertake a common project to benefit a community. This year, at the instance of area director Nonie T. Basilio and vice area director Virma Vergel de Dios, the 10 clubs of Area 1, District 17 of Zonta International opted to hold a massive blood letting for the benefit of the Philippine National Red Cross Blood Bank and the Victor Potenciano Memorial Medical Center, which served as the venue of the service project

Before the blood letting, volunteer donors recruited by each club were subjected to a thorough physical examination and laboratory blood test on HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, TB, malaria and other forms of infection to ensure the premium quality and safety of the blood. Relative to this, each club brought more than the agreed minimum of five donors to the pre-testing to make an allowance for those who would be disqualified. The 11 volunteers of Zonta Manila I, one of whom was Ronald Mervin Sison, son of president Baby Perez-Sison, all qualified, thereby making the club the topnotcher in the number of donors. In some cases where some volunteers were disqualified for one reason or another, the Zontians and their husbands themselves volunteered to be the donors. Said Mely Quijano, president of Valle Verde, who offered to be the donor in lieu of a disqualified volunteer, "This is the best gift I can give because it is a gift of myself." Two husbands of Zontians, Nestor Magnanao and Luis de Jesus, whose wives belong to the Zonta Clubs of Edsa and Environs and Greater Rizal II, respectively, are regular volunteer donors. At 450 cc of blood per donor, the 50 donors yielded 22,500 cc of the life-giving fluid at the end of the day, a precious and meaningful gift of love to the community.

The 10 Zonta Club presidents who sponsored the service were Baby Perez-Sison, Manila I; Imelda Villacorta, Manila II; Dr. Aurora Perez, Manila III; Marlyn Cabilao, Greater Rizal I; Lydia Tan, Greater Rizal II; Nieva Marie Laraya, Mandaluyong/San Juan; Luz Cornejo, Edsa and Environs; Juanita Dumrique, Marikina; Dori Espiritu for Dr. Isabelita Gozon, QC. and Carmelita Quijano, Valle Verde.



ZONTA-GREATER Rizal II president Lydia Tan leads a gift-giving, medical/dental/optical mission at the Philippine Orthopedic Hospital. The club uplifts the health condition of the indigent members of the community by giving periodic free medical and eye consultation, medicines, reading glasses and tooth extraction.

Zonta Club of Quezon City

DR. Belit Vital-Gozon, Zonta-QC president; Yoly Ayson, immediate past president; a patient, Dr. Ed Gonzales, Dr. Chino Martinez, past president, and Dori Espiritu, vice president, during a recent in-house medical mission held with the National Children's Hospital

RONALD Sison, son of Zonta-Manila I president Baby Perez-Sison, is shown donating blood as presidents Lydia Tan of Greater Rizal II, Dr. Rory Perez of Manila III, Mel Villacorta of Manila II, vice area director Virma Vergel de Dios, Perez-Sison, area director Nonie T. Basilio and Luz Cornejo look on.

Lorna, Aida or Fe?

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I am in my late 20s and have a flourishing business career. I see myself getting married and having children in three or four years' time. However, I don't have a steady girlfriend. It's not that I can't get one. Rather, I can't choose which one.

Right now I'm seeing or dating casually, but not seriously, three women. I have with each of them a "mutual understanding" type of relationship. It was not my intention to deceive any of them. Each of them started as my friend and things developed from there.

Modesty aside, I feel they truly love me. They are all responsible and mature women, but they have their differences. It's because of their differences that I want to keep seeing all of them. Each of them has qualities I am looking for in a woman. Not one is best or better than the other. I really love each of them.

They know about the whole situation. They are very understanding and patient. All of them said they would respect whatever choice I make. That makes it more difficult for me to decide. I can see myself spending my life with any of them. As much as I want to commit to one, I don't want to hurt any of them, and I do not want to stop being friends with those who I would not choose to marry.

I know it is impossible to marry all of them (I am a Catholic). *Tita*, is it possible to love more than one woman at the same time? Is this why some people resort to extramarital affairs? (I don't want to do that to my future wife.)

Sometimes I just wish they would meet other men whom they can love and who can love them back and be committed to them. I am scared of the thought that the time for me to make a choice might never come.

TAURUS

Is it possible to love more than one woman at the same time? Yes, *hijo*, that is quite possible. That's because every person has at least one good characteristic that also makes her or him lovable. So, if you'll look at every woman and see only the good and lovable things in her, then you can fall in love with all the women in the world.

I guess that is what's happening in your case. You're seeing only the good points in each of those three ladies. As you can see, that's quite fine only as long as you don't have to pick only one to be your wife.

To pick the best of the three, you will have to stop seeing only their good points. From now on, start looking at each woman's bad points, those personal characteristics that you won't be able to live with if that woman were already your wife. Then, after completing your score sheet, let go, as gently as you can, of the two with the biggest negative scores. You may say, then, that the woman who comes out best is the woman you love the most.

I don't know you enough to suggest what bad points to look out for. But if you see yourself as someone who will be a businessman forever, then the traits you should look in those ladies are those which will be big barriers to your role as a businessman-husband.

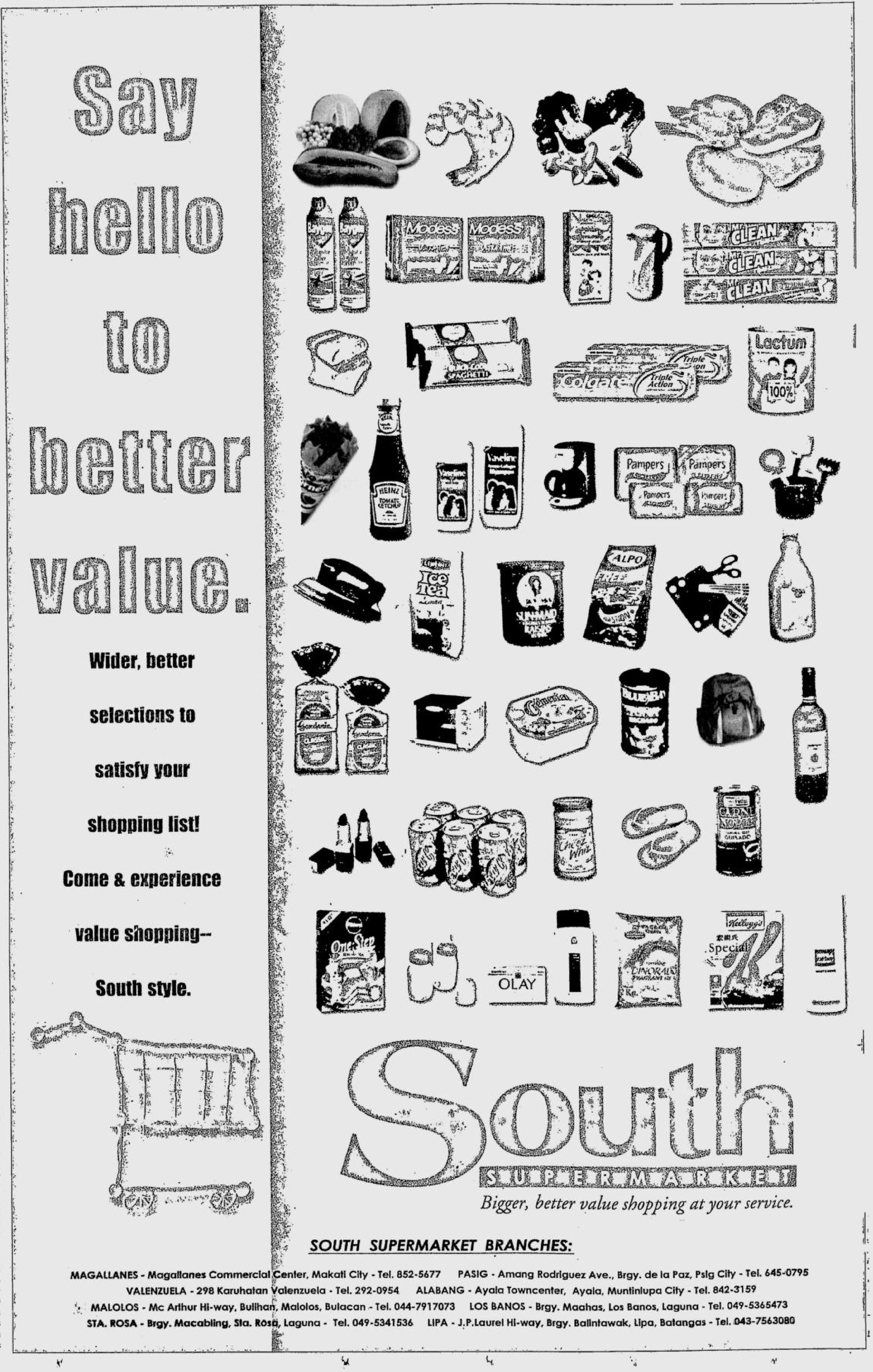
For instance, businessmen have to have flexible schedules to be able to pursue opportunities. That would mean you wouldn't want a wife who would be so possessive or insecure you can't stay out late at night or go on trips to see or entertain clients.

Businessmen might also have to attend parties or dinners where they have to bring along their wives (usually to show, in a way, that they are committed family men and, therefore, unlikely to squander their business partners' investments on women—or men). That means you would not like a wife who would not be presentable at such parties, or who have difficulty interacting with strangers or new acquaintances. A better choice would be one who would be helpful in sniffing possible deals or in landing the ones you are negotiating.

Think about your other requirements as a businessman and match those with the personality of each of the three girls you are close to now. When doing the match, the basic thing to remember, I think, is that you will not just be getting a wife and a mother to your children; you'll be getting your biggest and lifetime business partner, too. She might be a "silent" and unseen partner in that sense, but she should definitely be a partner and not a hindrance to your profession.

I hope I'm not sounding too cold-blooded about picking a wife and making it look like I'm giving you guidelines on how to get the best executive assistant for your business. If you are getting that feeling, just recall our assumption: You love all three women and love is no

LORNA/ p.D7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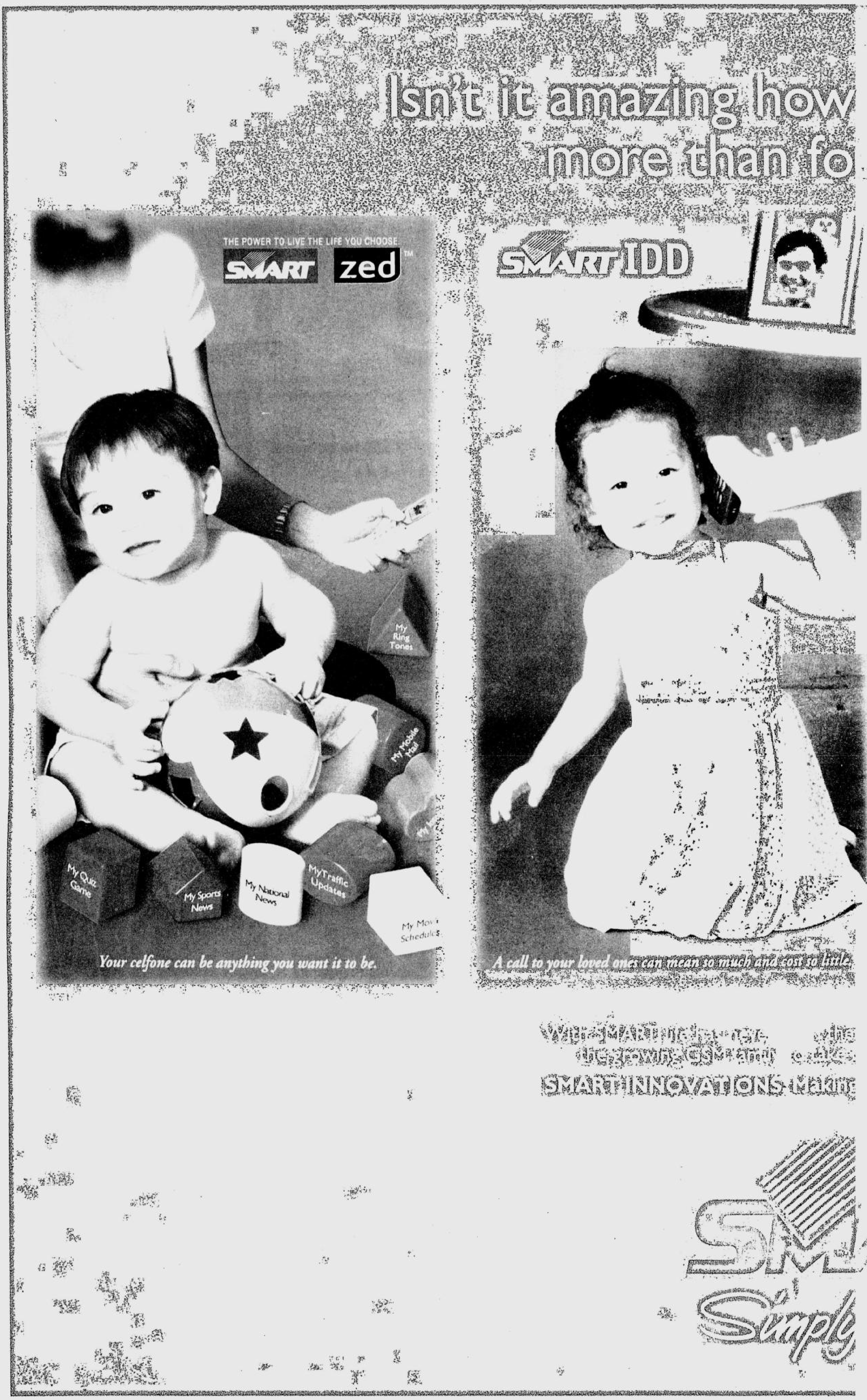
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ART
Amazing!

In the midst of chaos, they met and fell in love

BY ALEX Y. VERGARA
PHOTOS BY ROGER MARGALLO

JOURNALISM could sometimes pose serious threats to one's life and limb, but like any other profession it could also lead to a series of life-defining moments—sometimes culminating in marriage.

Filipino Joel Tesoro and Indonesian Tania Fajar should know. The two strangers were bracing themselves for the worse when they trooped separately that day to cover the brewing unrest in Medan, Indonesia. He was then working for Asiaweek, and she for Agence France-Presse.

That was three years ago, just before Suharto fell from power and the country he once ruled with an iron fist for more than 30 years began its steady descent into chaos. Indeed, it was an unlikely time and place for romance to bloom, but bloom it did.

"The air was thick with tension," recalls Joel, an honor graduate of Yale University. "Everybody was waiting for trouble to break out. And there she was in the middle of all this mess."

It was a classic case of love at first sight for the boyish Joel, but not for the fair Tania, who was so engrossed with the unfolding events to notice her new admirer. The two luckily came out of the experience alive, and had the chance to finally know each other later.

"Joel and I, it turned out, were booked at the same hotel," says Tania, a graduate of Macalester College in Minnesota. "We were introduced to each other by colleagues and mutual friends."

Joel, the second son of businessman Tito and fashion designer Patis Tesoro, lost no time courting the Indonesian beauty. They again had to go through uncertain times while covering strife-torn East Timor, before finally tying the knot in Muslim rites in July last year.

The years of living dangerously seem over for the newlyweds now that they've decided to put their journalism careers on hold to pursue post-graduate studies in the United States. Before they can fully step into their new roles as man and wife, however, Tito and Patis recently threw a grand, if belated, wedding reception in their honor at Villa Escudero in Quezon.

The entire venue had a distinct Southeast Asian flavor—from colorful decors and accent pieces to the Filipino and Indonesian attire worn by guests. Patis wore a stylized Maria Clara gown with a rainbow of tassels and appliques she herself designed.

Tania was radiant in a sleeveless powder blue *piña* gown, a collaboration between her mother-in-law and Indonesian fashion designer Peter Sie. Patis, an exponent of indigenous Filipino fabrics, had the material woven and embroidered in Manila before Sie designed the gown and put it together in Jakarta. Joel looked dashing in an embroidered *barong* Tagalog in a similar shade of blue designed, of course, by his mom.

The bride's parents, businessman Ibnu and Esmeralda Fajar, and several relatives and close friends flew in from Jakarta for the event. Joel also had his share of well-wishers, many of whom had to brave the crazy weekend traffic from Manila to Tiaong to join the party. The long trip seemed worth it.

Guests were treated to a sumptuous dinner buffet of Filipino dishes and desserts. Leading musicians Tots Tolentino, John Lesaca, Jong Cuenco and Eddie Munji provided the entertainment.

The fun was later capped off by a fashion show featuring Patis' latest "Pili-Indo" collection, a fusion of fabrics, embroideries and patterns that drew raves from foreign and local guests. Red wine flowed until the wee hours.

The couple plans to have two children, but that will have to wait for now. Tania is now taking up a post-graduate course in international studies, while Joel is set to pursue law.

"I think two [kids] will be enough," she says, "or whatever God gives us." Tania's only wish that night was "to enjoy the party." Joel had a bigger wish: "To enjoy the rest of our lives." From now on, in good times and in bad.

NEWLYWEDS Tania and Joel Tesoro

JOEL and Tania with Villa Escudero owner Ado Escudero

THE PARENTS: Ibnu Fajar, Tito Tesoro, Esmeralda Fajar and Patis Tesoro

FERDIE Flores and Viring de Asis

BATIK gown with sheer *tapis* and *kabaya* jacket

CHECKERED *kimona* with matching *tapis* and tasseled serpentine skirt

PATIS' *piña* top with pleated Bulakeña sleeves and deep-dyed taffeta skirt

BATIK gown topped by a Maria Clara-inspired jacket with lace embroidery

BACKIE Celdran, Joel's aunt

BEBOT Aspiras (left) and friend

HARI and Peter Sie

Milestones

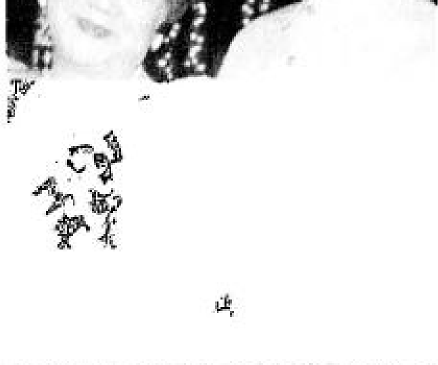
We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least a month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

CONDE-BAG-AO

Larry B. Conde and **Rose Marie V. Bag-ao** have chosen the first day of their new life together on June 16 at the San Agustin Parish Church, Valencia City, Bukidnon. Reception will follow at the Grand Ballroom of the Valencia Taipan Hotel & Restaurant. The bride will walk down the aisle in a **Teresita Villanueva** creation. Those of her entourage are sleeveless, floral powder blue gowns.

TORRES-CRUZ

Jayee C. Torres, son of **Orlando R. Torres** and **Edenia Cabanero Torres**, will wed **Marivic Cruz**, daughter of Capt. **Victor A. Cruz** and **Carmela Puno Cruz**, on June 8 at the Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth, Manila Bay, Pasay City. Reception will follow at the Centennial Hall, Manila Hotel. Overall coordinating will be handed by **Benjie Altencio** of the Wedding March.



SALVINO GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Filomeno and **Herminia Salvino** celebrate their 50th anniversary today at 4 p.m. at the Manila Cathedral, Intramuros, Manila. Designer of the ensemble is **Johnny Abad**.

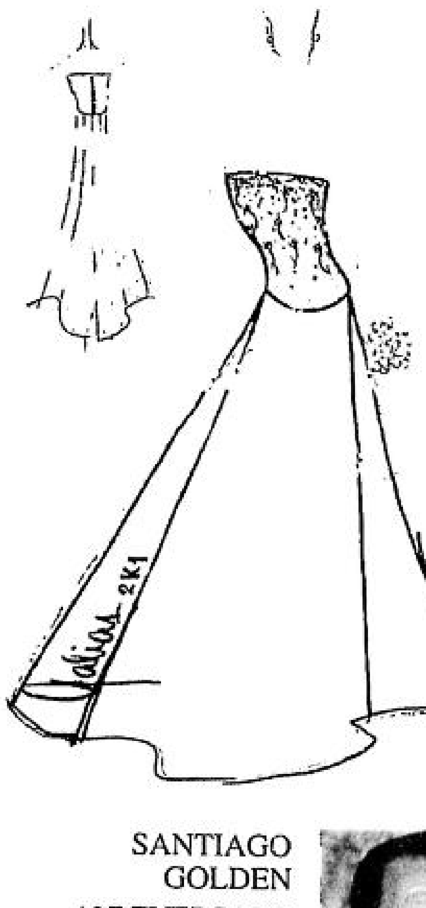
SUBILLAGA-HASABULLA

Michael Di[illegible]ayan Subillaga and **Faudia Gomez Hasabulla** will exchange "I dos" on June 16 at the Santo Domingo Church, QC. The groom is the son of **Julian Subillaga** and the late **Presinita Subillaga**, while the bride is the daughter of **Abdulrahman** and **Leonora Hasabulla**. The bride's gown is designed and created by **Susie Bonaobra** of Trends and Fashion, Park Avenue, Robinsons Galleria. Reception follows at Great Eastern Hotel, Quezon Avenue, QC.

NUCUM-GARCIA

Dr. **Alvin Christian T. Nucum** will exchange marriage vows with Dr. **Flordeliza G. Garcia** on June 9 at Christ the King Church, Greenmeadows, Libis, QC. A gathering of relatives and friends will follow at the Christ the King Social Hall.

Alvin was on his last year of residency training when he met Flor, who was a junior intern at that time. Five years after, they have decided to seal their union with the blessing of their parents and the Holy Church.

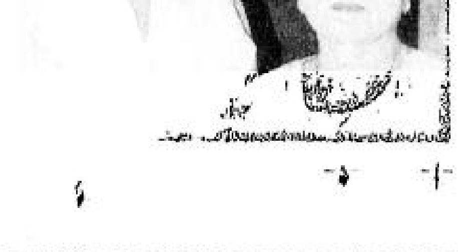


BERNABE-DEL ROSARIO

Gabriel Bernabe Jr. and **Claire del Rosario** were united in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony on April 22. The bride wore an ivory-pink strapless two piece gown bustier fully beaded with Swarovski crystals, cut glass and faux pearls, box pleats princess-cut skirt designed by **Edmund Galias**.

SANTIAGO GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

TONY and **Ofring Santiago** will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on June 16 at St. Williams Cathedral in Laoag City. The Santiagos resides in Laoag City with five children **Lerma, Minda, Maybel, Lia** and **Dado** and four grandchildren. Reception follows at Fort Ilocandia Resort Hotel.



She's in love with someone who can't make a commitment

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

I'm writing you from the Middle East (hope you don't mind if I don't mention exactly where I am because that guy I'm having a problem with listens to you most of the time). I've been working here for almost three years now.

It all started last year. It was a female friend who introduced me to Rand (not his real name). I put the idea aside because I didn't need another man in my life just yet. That could wait. Two months after, I decided to meet this guy.

At my friend's house, I was a little fidgety and I've noticed that it was becoming very late and thought he changed his mind about coming. I was about to give up when the doorbell rang. It was him! He's not exactly good-looking but he was very presentable. Tall and slim, nice and quiet. But what an appetite he has! But he was a pleasant guy.

All of a sudden, there was a smile on my face again. My dad noticed it, too, so whenever he calls and I'm asleep, he would wake me up. He knew that I was happy. Our days and weeks would be a routine. A day wouldn't pass with us not talking to each other. I suddenly realized that I liked him! I was very inspired in all the things I've been doing.

Then, he was reassigned in Manila. I didn't know what to feel. And what made it even worse is that I never really knew how he felt for me.

Rand is in Manila now. We send text messages or talk whenever I get the chance to go home.

I don't know what to think anymore. I know I'm not supposed to expect anything from him. Should I wait for him? Or should I just forget him? Yes, it is very hard to let go and say goodbye, but if that's the only way to make everything right, I could.

KAY

There are times in our relationships when words are never said and all we hear are unspoken sentiments concealed in glances and implicit gestures. Times when we choose to remain silent because we are afraid of what our words may bring and what our expressions may reveal.

It is indeed inspiring to live our lives for someone who we hope would, one day, share forever with us. But if this hope will be based on feelings and not fact, then we might just wake up one day being sorry for wanting too much.

You are afraid to wake up to a bad dream and you want to give up a fight which you haven't fought yet. Why don't you express your feelings and let Rand see beyond your silence? Communication is the first step in building a relationship. Without this vital element, all and every effort would just be like kisses in the wind.

If you really like Rand, give him your best shot. See how he reacts and take your next step from there. You can hold on and wait for love or say goodbye and move on.

Turning our backs on someone who inspires us should not be a choice but an option. We give up only when we have tried and we should keep on trying until we exhaust all our reasons to hang on.

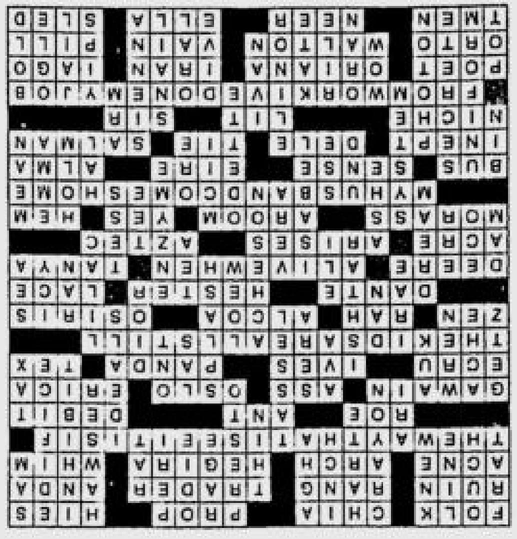
Let us always remember that it is better to lose a battle we fought than to lose a battle we never had the courage to face.

Listen to the full-length version of this story on June 8, on Joe D' Mango's "Lovenotes" on Wave 89.1.

Join Hallmark's Between You and Me "Card Speak" contest. Get the chance to have your heartwarming story printed in the INQUIRER's 2bU! section every Wednesday. And if that's not enough, you also win two cool Swatch watches. Just tell us in 300 words or less why the card you've chosen means so much to you. Send the actual card to Filstar Distributors Corp., 3/F Team Pacific Building, 13 Jose Cruz St., Ugong, Pasig City 1604. Listen to Joe D'Mango's "Lovenotes" every Friday at 10 a.m. on Wave 89.1 as he reads your favorite Between You and Me Card.

E-mail the author at dearjoe@lovenotes.fin or visit www.lovenotes.fin

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD



E-cash card invades campus

MONDEX Card, an innovative microchip-based payment facility, is set to implement an ID system that will help students gain access to different campus services securely and conveniently.

The system will be employed at the start of the academic year this June in five pilot schools. These are St. Anthony's Boys Village in Cavite, Asian Institute of Management, the University of the Philippines College of Engineering in Diliman, University of Asia and the Pacific and Philippine Science High School.

This first school-based project for the e-cash card is made possible by Mondex Philippines Inc., the exclusive local franchise holder of the electronic cash payment system recognized worldwide. Under NextStage Inc., a holding company with interest in various mobile and e-commerce solutions, Mondex Philippines has tapped its sister company Infinite-E to develop the Smart Card-Based School System (SCBSS).

The SCBSS will cover library system, student registration system, school security and monitoring system, school office for time-keeping, report card generation, school property and supply inventory system, and financial management system. Other school systems are presently being developed.

Once in place, the system will enable students and school personnel alike with Mondex Cards to pay at the campus and other service areas without the need to handle actual cash. They can also use these cards to pay for tuition, borrow books from the library and have their due dates automatically encrypted, access online services in computer centers, generate report cards, and perform other functions.

With a built-in digital ID inside the microchip, the Mondex Card's multifunctionality is backed by utmost security. Its operating system was developed using the Information Technology Security Evaluation Committee software design process up to E6 level of security usually found only in military applications.

Mondex Philippines saw the project take off after the company offered to develop the SCBSS free of charge, allowing the hardware component to finance the cost.

After the systems are in place, Mondex Philippines plans to transport its software products to other campuses in different countries. This move will further demonstrate the Filipino expertise in the IT industry, particularly in the global trend toward chip-based card technology and beget a young generation of Mondex Card users growing up in the e-lifestyle of the future.

Lorna, Aida or Fe?

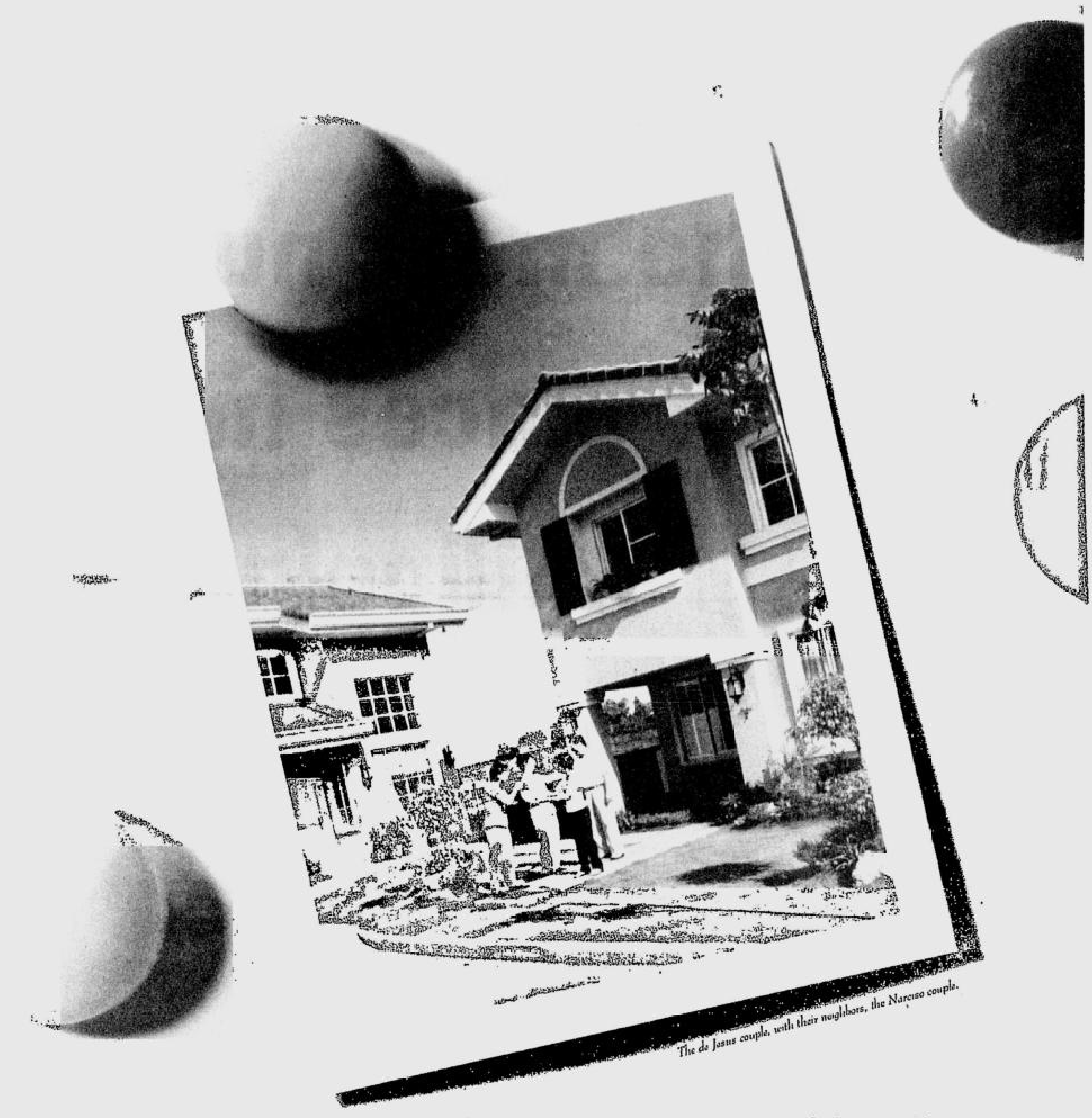
(From page D3)

longer the basis in this "elimination" round.

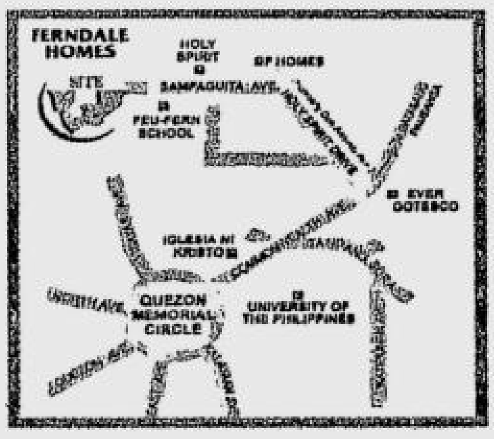
Now, as to your other question: Is loving more than one woman the reason behind extramarital affairs? One of the reasons, yes, but not the sole reason. And, still, in many cases, I suspect, it might not be the real reason at all, even when the two-timing husband says "love" is his reason.

But that is such a big topic, *hijo*, and we don't have space for it now. For now, maybe this should suffice: If you marry for love, and marry the woman you love the most, then you know that any extramarital affair you might have later is for other reasons but love.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City



The de Jesus couple, with their neighbors, the Narciso couple.



"It's the sense of community we like about living here. Magkakapit-bahay, magkakaibigan."

-Jose de Jesus, Ferndale Homes resident since December, 2000

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Ferndale Homes

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Scape

How one environmental activist does it

Actor Roy Alvarez will lead a picnic today with Mother Earth Foundation and other NGOs at the Ninoy Aquino park to make a pitch for environmental preservation

Story on page E2

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We bring you a sampling of premium California wines for you to try at fantastic values.

Benziger

Cabernet Sauvignon 1997
Graceful with supple fruit and a nose of currant, cherry oak.
P 720*

Rutherford Ranch

Chardonnay 1998
A full mouthfeel with great harmony.
P 600*

Cabernet Sauvignon 1996
Loads of round fruit and perfect for drinking now.
P 736*

Ravenswood

Merlot 1997
Well-balance and easy drinking.
P 872*

Schramsberg

Blanc de Blanc 1996
A deliciously fresh sparkling wine, the official bubbly of the U.S. White house.
P 1,280*

Round Hill

Cabernet Sauvignon 1997
Mature with firm tannins and plenty of fruit and oak on the nose.
P 504*

* Prices of wines are at less 20% for cash sales

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French Wine of the Month

Chateau Guichard 1995
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P 464*

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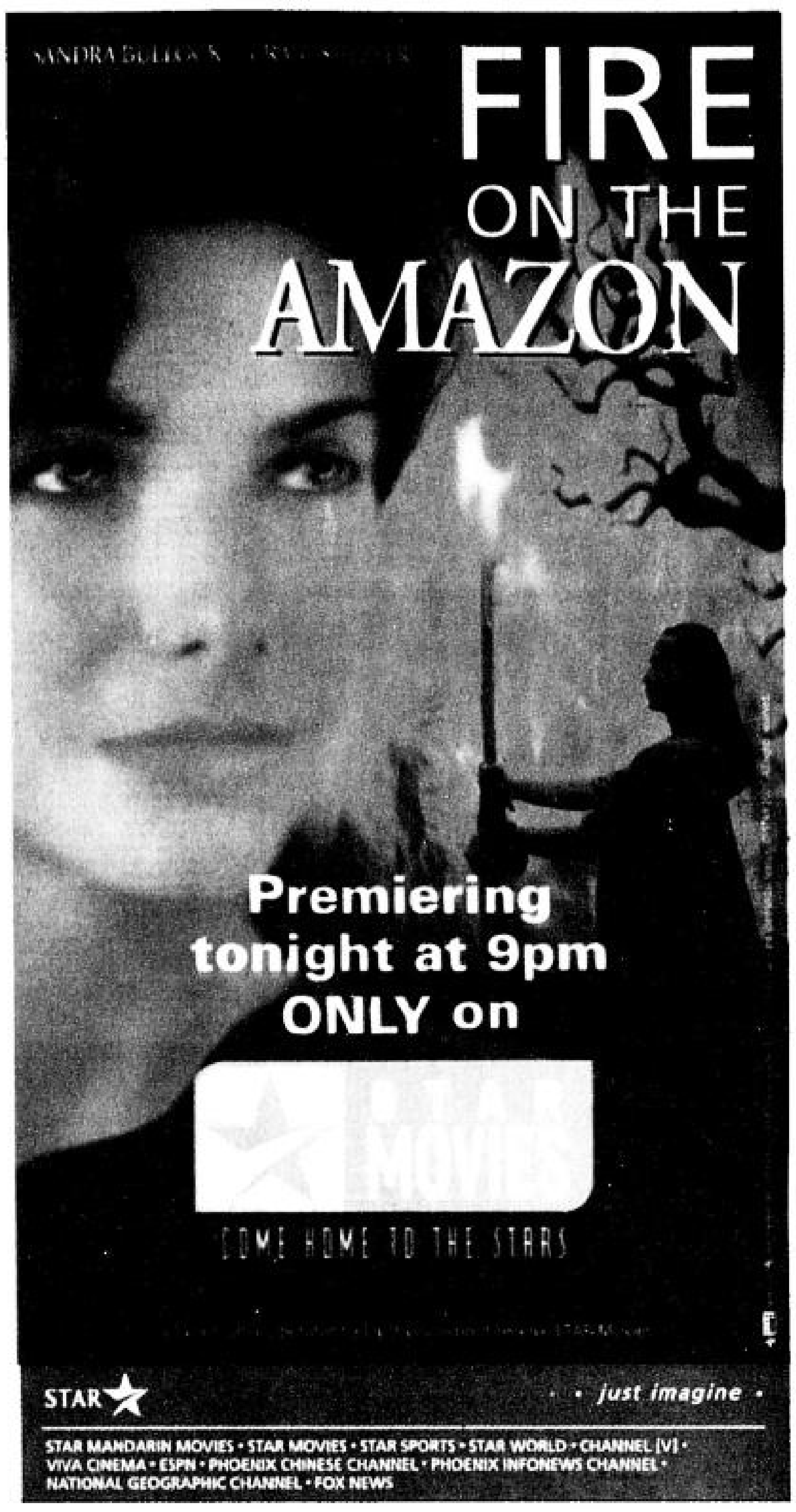

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Wide awake in Abra

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY VANGIE BAGA-REYES

Often glossed over in tourist brochures and guides on Northern Philippines, the province holds a storehouse of simple pleasures for the traveler who wants to imbibe nature and culture in refreshing doses

"CARL carabao! Carl carabao!"

Remember that corny soft-drink commercial on television where four traveling, insouciant teeners passed through a dark, eerie-looking tunnel? That tunnel is called the Tangadan Tunnel, the official landmark of Abra province.

Honestly, I can't recall any other commercial or advertisement that talks about this province up North. I've read quite a few write-ups about the impressive provinces in northern Luzon, but Abra is mentioned only in brief since most travelogs focus on the scenic landscapes of the Ilocos province, such as Vigan and Laoag.

I've been to Abra a few times to visit my sister, Elaine, who migrated to Abra from Manila eight years ago to settle down with my brother-in-law, Roi Molina, a true-blue Ilocano. During my visits, I'm always amazed how this province exists quietly, tackling day-to-day rural life like a routine. The people are up on their feet by 4 a.m. to tend to their farms or work in the *kapitolyo*; then they're off to bed by 7-8 p.m. to prepare for the next day. I envy their simple living and uncomplicated needs. But I easily get restless when I am there, since Abra has no malls, no movie houses, no Internet cafés.

However, I was in Abra recently and was flabbergasted to see that most "Abranians," young and old, had cellular phones. The text bug had apparently bitten locals.

History

Abra's history is worth knowing about. The first inhabitants of Abra were the ancestors of the Bontocs and the Ifugaos who eventually left to settle in the old Mountain Province. Other early inhabitants were the Tingguians, or Itnegs, as they are also known.

In 1598, a Spanish garrison was established in Bangued, the capital of Abra, to protect Ilocanos who had converted to Christianity from Tingguian raids. During the British invasion, Gabriela Silang and her army fled to Abra from Ilocos and continued the revolt begun by her slain husband, Diego.

The slain revolutionary priest, Conrado Balweg, who fought for the rights of the Cordillera tribes, began his crusade in Abra. After successfully negotiating a peace accord with Balweg's group in 1987, the Philippine government created the Cordillera Administrative Region, which includes Abra.

Abra was formerly under the jurisdiction of the old Ilocos province. In 1818 the Ilocos region was divided into two (Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur); Abra became a part of Ilocos Sur. But on March 9, 1917, the Philippine Assembly established Abra as a province.

To be more precise, Abra occupies the western portion of the Cordillera region in the northern Luzon. The province is hemmed in by towering mountain ranges of the Ilocos in the west and the Cordillera Central in the east. It has extremely rugged terrain, with mountains and hills rising along its perimeter and interior.

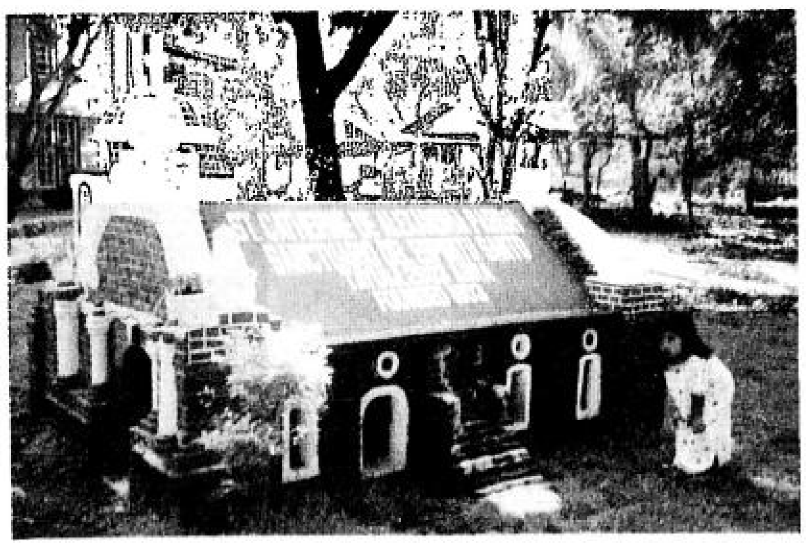
Sights and sounds

It's a long road from Manila to Abra, stretching some 410 km north through endless, narrow, but consistently smooth, asphalt highway. The trip by air-conditioned bus (you choose from Partas, Philippine Rabbit, Viron Transit and Dominion) lasts some nine hours, passing through Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan, La Union and Ilocos Sur, then turning right after Narvacan.

Ideally, if you leave Manila by dawn, you'll reach the province after lunch. There are, of course, advantages and disadvantages in traveling in the morning. A disadvantage is you'll be stuck in traffic in the towns of Mabalacat, Pampanga, then Tarlac, Pangasinan and La Union, but you'll get to Abra before sunset. An advantage, however, is that the various scenery along the road will make the long bus ride a delightful trip. From the bus some trees could be seen on the right, the great plains on the left and the lights of homes in the distance. If you reach Abra by nightfall, you'll only find yourself straining to see the magnificent mountains and wishing you had begun the trip earlier in the day.

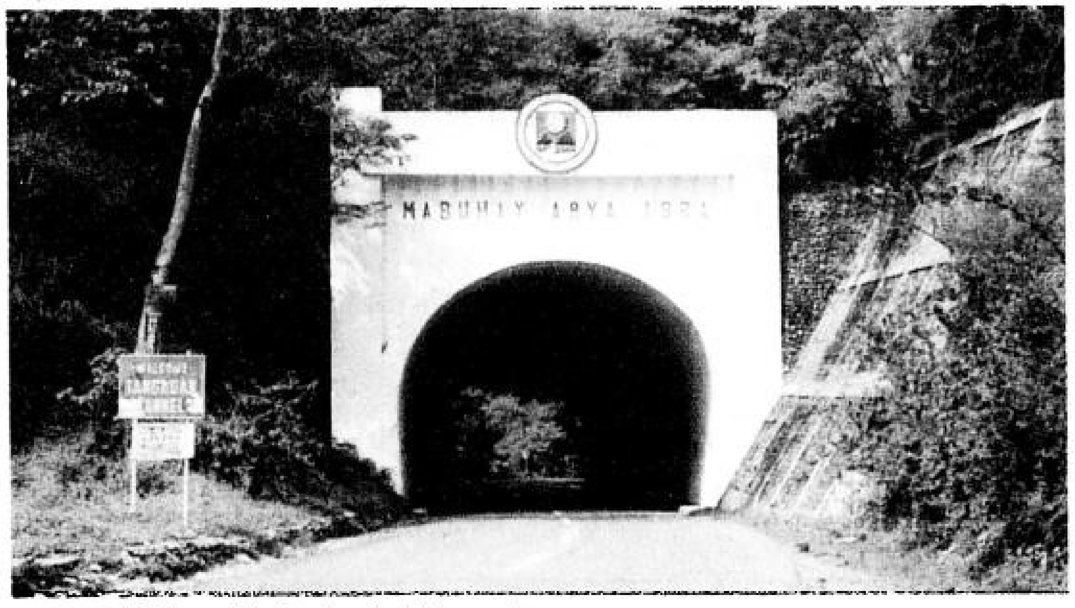
Ideal stopovers include Sta. Luisita Plaza in Tarlac, and there are rows of eateries in La Union and Candon, Ilocos Sur.

Along the way, one sees many cliffs, with thick foliage, some standing majestically along the cliffs. But, after several twists and turns of the road, a familiar tunnel greets the visitors to Bangued—The Tangadan Tunnel that says "Mabuhay Arya Abra!" The tunnel lies on the road to Bangued, near the boundary of Ilocos Sur and Abra. This 40-m tunnel has become a popular landmark for Abra visitors.



THREE-YEAR-OLD Marianne Molina takes a peek inside the miniature version of St. Catherine Church.

THE BRILLANTES Ancestral House, the house of the first mayor of Tayum, Abra, is now being preserved by the National Historical Institute.



TANGADAN Tunnel, the landmark of the province

ST. Catherine of Alexandria, the oldest church in the province

MARY Barbero Park in Tayum town plaza is surrounded with centuries-old acacia trees, manmade waterfalls and a lagoon.

JEEPNEYS filled to the brim are a common sight in Abra.

Culture and living

Abra is a province of mountains, fertile lands, lowland swamps, far-flung springs, rivers and hills. The entrance to the town proper of Abra is particularly impressive. Bangued is a busy capital, with its imposing Provincial Capitol, and main thoroughfares become clogged by tricycles and private vehicles at certain hours.

The first thing you see on the left, as your car enters Bangued is the impressive façade of the St. James Cathedral, which was built in 1722, and a few meters away is the city plaza and the Provincial Capitol. On one side of Bangued, there are eateries offering authentic Ilocano *pinakbet, dinengdeng* and *chicharon (bagnet)*, drinking establishments and videoke bars, which come alive at night, during weekends and especially during summer.

Abra has 27 municipalities and the province has a couple of scenic parks. My favorite is the Casamata National Park, with its shrine of the Blessed Mother and a swimming pool, that sits on top of the hill overlooking the town. My next favorite is the Mary Barbero Park situated in the town plaza of Tayum, 5 km northeast of Bangued. Surrounded by centuries-old acacia trees, the park offers its visitors manmade waterfalls, a lagoon and a children's playground.

The Don Mariano Marcos Bridge is located at the boundary of Tayum and Lagangilang on the Abra-Kalinga highway. Spanning 886 m, it is the third longest bridge in the country and affords a scenic view of Abra River.

"Resorts are among the attractions of the province, although these are not too well-publicized and only a few have explored these," says Edgardo Domalaon, a cashier of the Land Registration Authority, Registry of Deeds in Bangued. The swimming resorts include Bucay's Borokibok Resort, Sagsagat Spring Resort, Boliney's hot spring and Lagayan spring resort.

Abra's economy is agriculture-based. Its major crops are rice, corn and root crops; and such commercial produce as coffee, tobacco and coconut. Most Abranians are farmers who tend rice in *kaingin* and rice terraces. They also weave baskets and blankets. Most Ilocano men are also breeders of fighting cocks. Some houses have piggery and poultry in their backyard.

If you're a first-timer here, don't expect to avail of a rent-a-car. The only alternative is to hire a private jeep or tricycle, but this does not come cheap. You have to shell out at least a few hundred bucks. And, speaking of cash, there are no automated teller machines in the area. So, you better bring enough cash with you. Good hotels in the capital include King David, Oval Era and the Pastoral Building run by priests.

And, if there is a reason for you to visit Abra, it will definitely be the Arya Abra! Festival held each year in March. The province holds this lively, weeklong festival that features street dancing in colorful costumes and a parade of floats, fresh produce and animals. This is the most-awaited event of the year for all Abranians, too.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

How one environmental activist does it

BY CONSTANTINO C. TEJERO

TODAY, since it's Sunday, members of Mother Earth and various NGOs together with their families will go picnicking and jamming and hold the main activities at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife.

"The environment cannot be compromised," says actor-environmentalist Roy Alvarez. "It cannot be simply relied on politicians, because *politicos* are into the science of compromise. The problem is, we rely too much on government. The solution is with us, individually."

A trustee and founding member of Mother Earth Foundation, Alvarez gives lectures, workshops and symposiums on zero-waste management, pollution, inner and outer ecology. He started lecturing in 1990, and has been doing it extensively since 1998.

He reaches 800-1,000 people a week nationwide, in barangays, civic clubs and organizations, parishes, schools, subdivisions and condominiums, government offices, hospitals, even military establishments. He would talk to the young or train teachers, community leaders, and local government units.

He does this 2-4 times a week, the whole year round. "But it's not *tuloy-tuloy*, because I have no funding. I rely on organizations that invite me."

ALVAREZ faces his biggest crowd in Lapu-lapu City.

More storytelling

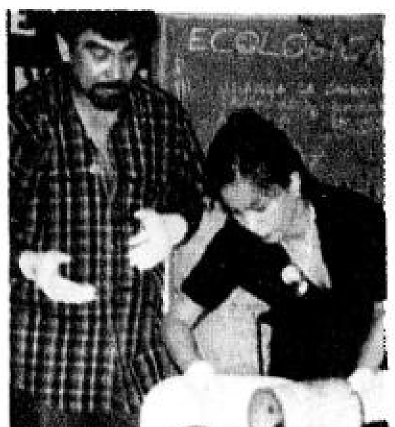
A symposium or workshop usually takes three days. On the first day, Alvarez would immediately disseminate massive information on the degradation of the planet. The workshop has been designed to emphasize the urgency of the situation and the importance of taking individual responsibility for it.

"*Nangungunsiyensiya ako*," he says of his interaction with his audience. "I bring them to the edge, because it might be too late. Some lecturers focus on *papaano*. I'm more into *bakit, bakit, bakit*—to go into the real cause (inner *basura*) and effect (outer *basura*) of the problem. I have a wholistic approach—from micro to macro."

During his workshops and symposiums, he uses less technical terms and more storytelling, often appropriating the conventions and analogies of horror, comedy, drama, even action movies. Sometimes he would use stories full of violence just to send his message across, leading one observer to comment that his lectures are "*nakakatigatig ng damdamin*."

He encountered his biggest audience so far when he faced some 6,000 people in Lapu-lapu City early this year. "*Pinakagusto ko* around 200, when we can see each other's eyes."

One time he came face to face with an unruly audience of kindergarten pupils. At a loss over how to hold the kids' short attention span, that was when he had to use an extremely violent tale as analogy to what's happening to the environment. That upset the nuns, but it proved effective to catch the kids' attention.



ROY Alvarez and Chin-Chin Gutierrez show Sorsogon kids how to compost.

He would have liked to teach in the academe but then he would be limited to one or two schools. He believes going the lecture circuit would be more productive, particularly since he is a celebrity, thus audiences would easily recognize and pay attention to. (The only other show-biz celebrity who's into environmental activism is Chin-Chin Gutierrez.)

Dialogue and image

Being a child of the radical 1960s, Alvarez would naturally take to activism, any kind of activism, as a sort of birthright.

(While a student shortly before martial law was declared, he had wanted to enter the Philippine Military Academy, but when he saw some friends and relatives done in by the military, he decided not to have anything to do with the military. So he took up management at the University of Santo Tomas, then later proceeded to take up a multimedia course at the British Columbia Institute of Technology.)

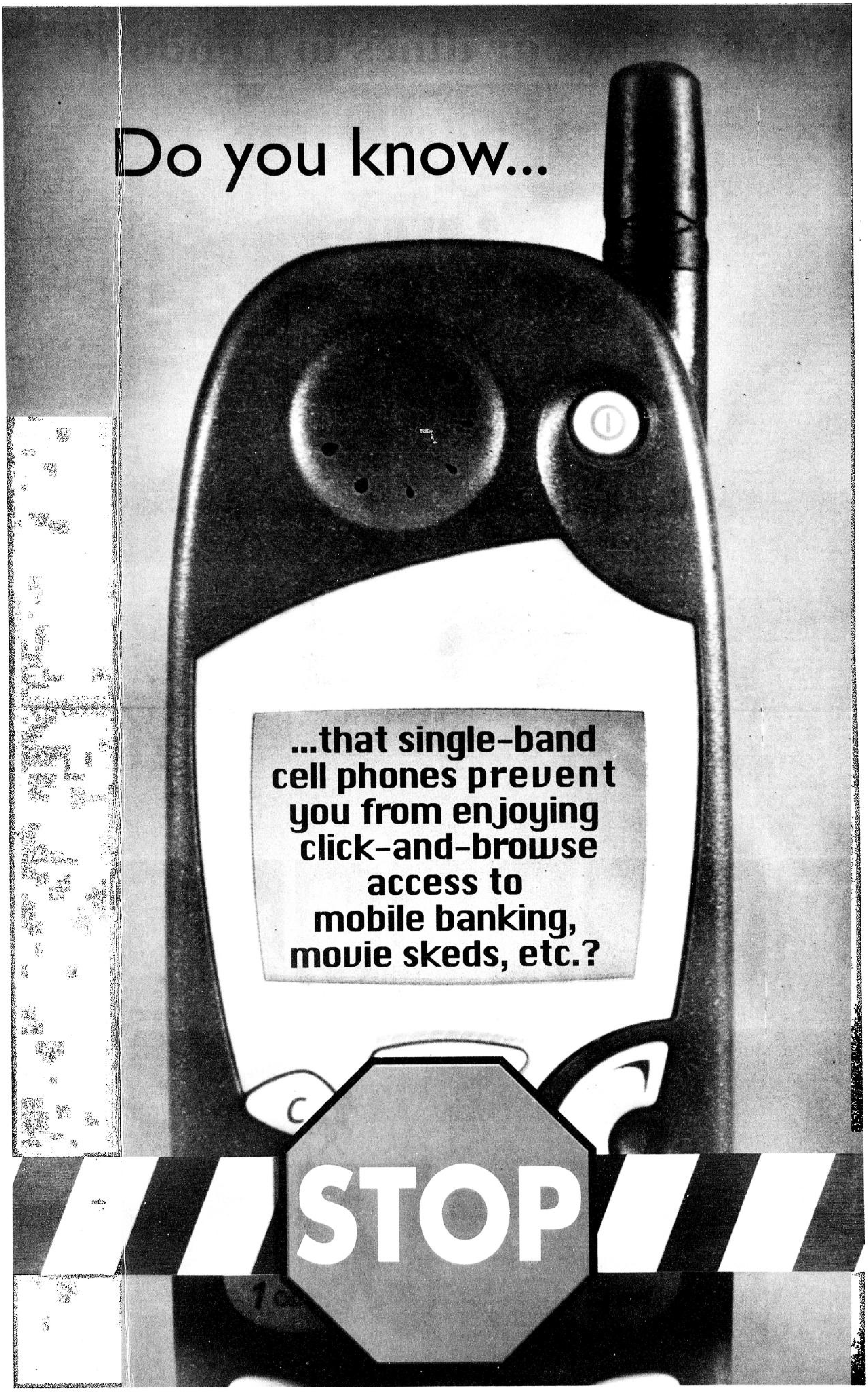
Yes, he's an activist, but one who believes in dialogue.

"I do not deal in personalities, in mudslinging—'*yun ang lumang sistema*," he says "If I start pointing names, what good will that do? My lectures focus on *ikaw at ako*. For me, *walang kalaban. Dapat may* dialogue for everybody. The cause of the degradation of the environment is ignorance, so I'd try to talk to the illegal loggers and turn them into environmentalists. Don't destroy their image; instead, give them an image."

At the end of the workshop, Alvarez leads his audience in prayer for the healing of the land, a meditation on the healing of the earth: The time has come for us to heal, if not rectify, the life-threatening imbalances caused by our concept of progress.

By the end of the lecture, he has offered alternatives. For instance, he has made his audience realize that they can get their charcoal fuel not just from trees but also from compacted old newspapers.

"You have to create an ecosystem," he says, "so that *iikot uli ang* wheel, *para babalik uli ang ibon, babalik uli ang isda.*"



Do you know...

...that single-band cell phones prevent you from enjoying click-and-browse access to mobile banking, movie skeds, etc.?

STOP

Where glamour dines in London

By Kitty Go

THE GOOD neighborhoods of South Kensington (the late Princess Diana's neighborhood) and Knightsbridge (home of Harvey Nichols and Harrod's) may be highly coveted (and priced!) on the real estate market. But they are low on the hip list precisely because they are just that: Good neighborhoods. Since when were your parents ever considered cool? As one of my teachers in New York used to say, "You can't call yourself a big city without sleaze."

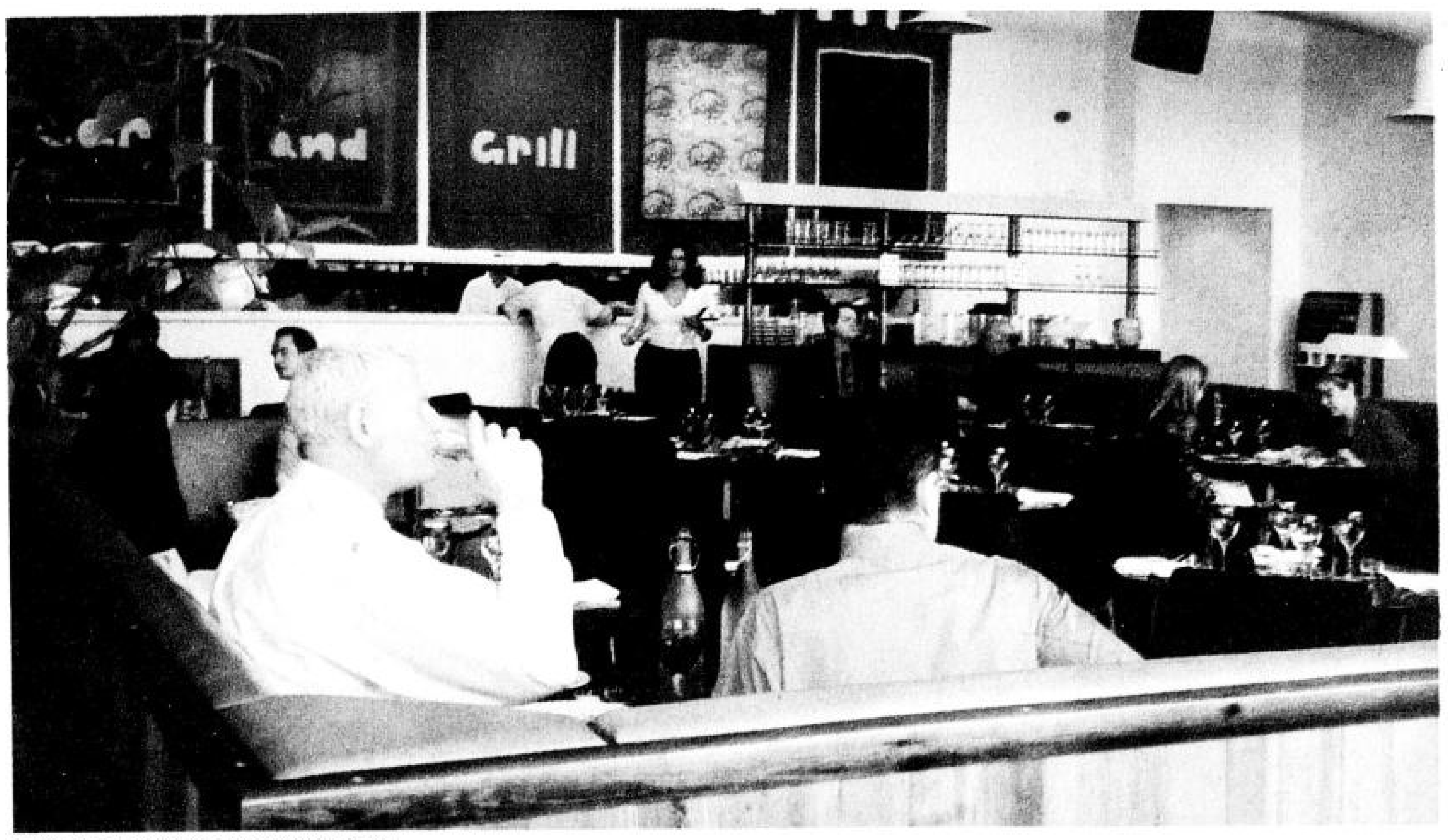
The formerly dodgy neighborhood of Notting Hill Gate has now become *the* place to shop and dine, if not live. The still-dodgy neighborhood of Shepherd's Bush is so up-and-coming now that last year, both British Vogue and Tatler have done stories on the area and continually feature its residents, homes and new hangouts.

Charlie McVeigh, a onetime (albeit very brief) Manila resident, has put up successful restaurants in both areas with his partners **Jake Gavin** and **Saffron Rainey**. The trio has been touted by British Vogue (June 2001) as members of "London's Glamour Pack… the people who define London style—the A-list guests, the faces that shape our social stratosphere."

Charlie, Jake and Saffron are successful newcomers to one of the riskiest businesses around. They started in the fall of 1999 with Woody's (41-43 Woodfield Road, London W9, ph (44)(020)7266-3030), in the trendy neighborhood of Notting Hill Gate and just last year opened Bush Bar and Grill in Shepherd's Bush.

Not only do these establishments have the reputation for good food of consistent quality (a rarity in new and trendy restaurants), but they pull in the A-list crowd. In other words, both places, off the beaten track, I might add, have made a name in both the posing and eating departments. Models **Liberty Ross** and **Jacquetta Wheeler**, **Mick Jagger** and **Jerry Hall**, celebrity journalist and **Joseph** and **Ralph Fiennes**, **Jasmine Guinness** and British Vogue editor-in-chief **Alexandra Schulman**, all make Woody's and/or Bush Bar their choice for dining and people-watching.

Since the day it launched, Woody's has been packed every night, both at the bar and in the dining room. In its January 2000 issue, British Elle counted Woody's as one of its Elle Hot 100 for 2000. It opened at the time when "members only" bars were the only places to be. The practice in the UK happens either when the place gets so full that they turn people away and/or the management decides to accept "members only" (read: the beautiful people). The entire place used to be open to everyone and members got priority entrance and seating in the upstairs dining room.


BUSH Bar and Grill in Shepherd's Bush

Once a Manila resident, Charlie McVeigh has put up restos that are the hottest places to go and be seen

However, this year, things may change. Business has been so good that the owners may decide to open Woody's strictly to members only. The change has begun with the policy of reserving the top floor dining area only for members. Weekday lunches will soon be restricted to members. As of this writing, the rest of Woody's—the downstairs bar and dance area—are still open to nonmembers.

Dodgy turns chic

Woody's created a stir when it opened because it was not only in a relatively dangerous neighborhood at that time, but it was in the dodgiest area of that dodgy neighborhood. It also had a concept new to London, which was having a bar, a dance area and restaurant all in one place and over three floors, to boot.

The partners decided on the present location because they noticed that Notting Hill Gate was becoming a huge destination for nightlife yet not many establishments had a late-night liquor license. With its nightclub license, Woody's stays open very late. In fact, Woody's can be credited for contributing to the neighborhood's extremely high hip quotient.

When I first went there, I wouldn't have found the entrance without noticing throngs of people crowding a tiny door of some dilapidated building. From the outside, Woody's looks like a warehouse in some abandoned industrial zone. The receiving area adds no glam to the already downtrodden entrance, but the surprise hits you at the bar with its gray walls, crimson banquettes and zinc tabletops. Top that industrial chic meets Le Cirque with a gigantic Mario Testino photograph of gorgeous men and women in cotton underwear. The much-talked-about interiors were done by the very stylish duo of **Sophia McVeigh** (Charlie's wife) and **Ramona Rainey** (Saffron's sister).

In contrast to the dimly lit bar is the brightly lit top floor restaurant with multicolored blocks decorating the walls. There is a more private bar on the top floor that also doubles as a sports bar. Woody's sometimes gives members special offers (such as two for one drinks, special menus, etc.) during football season. Most any dish at Woodys' will not disappoint and the servings are huge. Its most popular order is the Woody's club sandwich, which ousted the formerly popular Woody's burger (still on the menu).

Even before it opened, Bush Bar and Grill (45A Goldhawk Road, London W12, ph (44)(020)8746-211) already played host to the launch party for TV chef **Nigella Lawson**'s launch of her best-selling cookbook, "How to be a Domestic Goddess." So much for its reputation preceding the place.

Good, quick food

Bush Bar is down the street from both the Goldhawk Road tube station and the Shepherd's Bush market. For an avid marketgoer like me, it makes an ideal stop for brunch after a morning plowing through The Bush's market. Weekday lunch hours are not too busy, but according to manager **Jerome Armit**, reservations are a must for dinners and brunches.

"This area is close to good areas like Holland Park and Notting Hill Gate. All these places are about a mile from each other. Do you know there are very nice houses on the sidestreets of Goldhawk Road? So we get a lot of neighborhood business," explains Charlie "The Beard" McVeigh, as he is christened by the London society press. "**Kate Moss** comes here. So do Nigella Lawson and **Nick Foulkes** (restaurant critic for the Evening Standard, luxury fashion authority and contributor to the Financial Times and The Spectator). The main BBC national office is here in Shepherd's Bush."

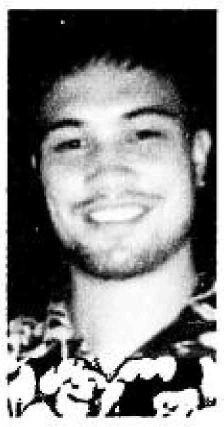
This former dairy processing plant was brought to its present unpretentious yet stylish setting by the architect **Tchaik Chassay** and decorator **Melissa North**. Bush Bar and Grill can seat 125 people at one time in its dining area plus cram another 80-100 people at the bar. The entire restaurant is bounded by an outdoor patio (which is rarely used given that London is the mother of El Niño) on one side and an open kitchen on the other. "We didn't want to do a high level of cuisine," says Charlie (who recommends the Organic Rib of Beef). "Just good, quick food. Brasserie food. People come here to have fun and meet friends so why shouldn't the food be good, too?"

HK sale

The next Hong Kong Celebrities' New and Second Hand sale will be from June 12-17, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m., at the Hong Kong Exhibition Center, Rm 404-406, 4th floor, Low Block, China Resources Building, 26 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong (across from Wanchai Police Station). Check out finds such as Chanel suits, formerly HK$18,000 now HK$1,800, Miu Miu dress formerly HK$2,800 now HK$300. Call Ms Lee at (852) 2543-3313 or e-mail thevenue@netvigator.com.

Okay—don't come crying to me if you missed the HK tai-tai sale or if you don't know where to eat in London.

E-mail the author at styledowager@hotmail.com


ERICK Menck

ERIC Quizon

JASON Webb

MICHELLE Periquet

REA Gomez of E! Philippines

CHRISTINE Fletcher

RUDY Hatfield

ANGEL Hoefer

JB Bangoy

Wild E!

TEESAW

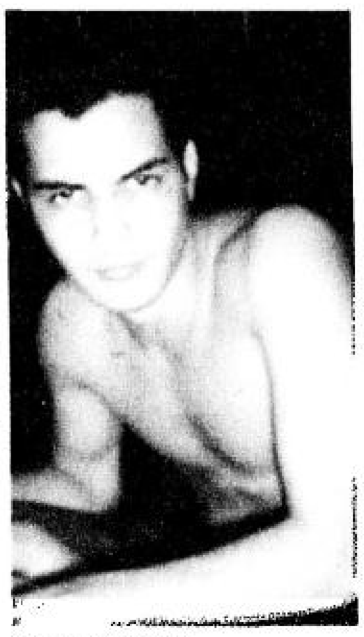
Raul Teehankee

E! The Entertainment Channel inaugurates its Philippine version with a wild, rollicking party to shame Hollywood

IF you had seen some segments of the "Wild On…" series shown on E! The Entertainment Channel, you would wish that you were there rubbing elbows with all those gorgeous hunks and babes, boozing and partying 'till the wee hours of the morning.

The launch of E! Philippines at Venezia resembled its Hollywood parent, with models dancing on the ledge and licking lemon on bods chased by tequila neat. It became wilder when **Rustom Padilla** shed off his shirt and showed off that buffed-up chest together with beautiful models.

From then on, it was unabashed body gyrations to the music. Party organizers **Cecile Ysmael** and **Lina Nuval** together with **Rea Gomez** and VJ **Claudine Trillo** of E! Philippines were ecstatic about the success of the event. We hope to join more shindigs (what a '70s term!) like E! in the future.

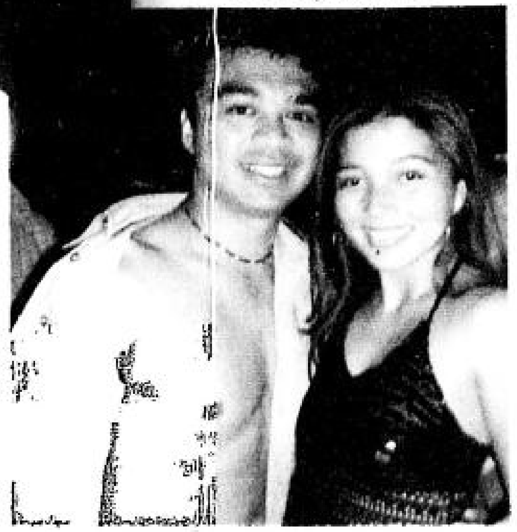

VJ Edward Feist

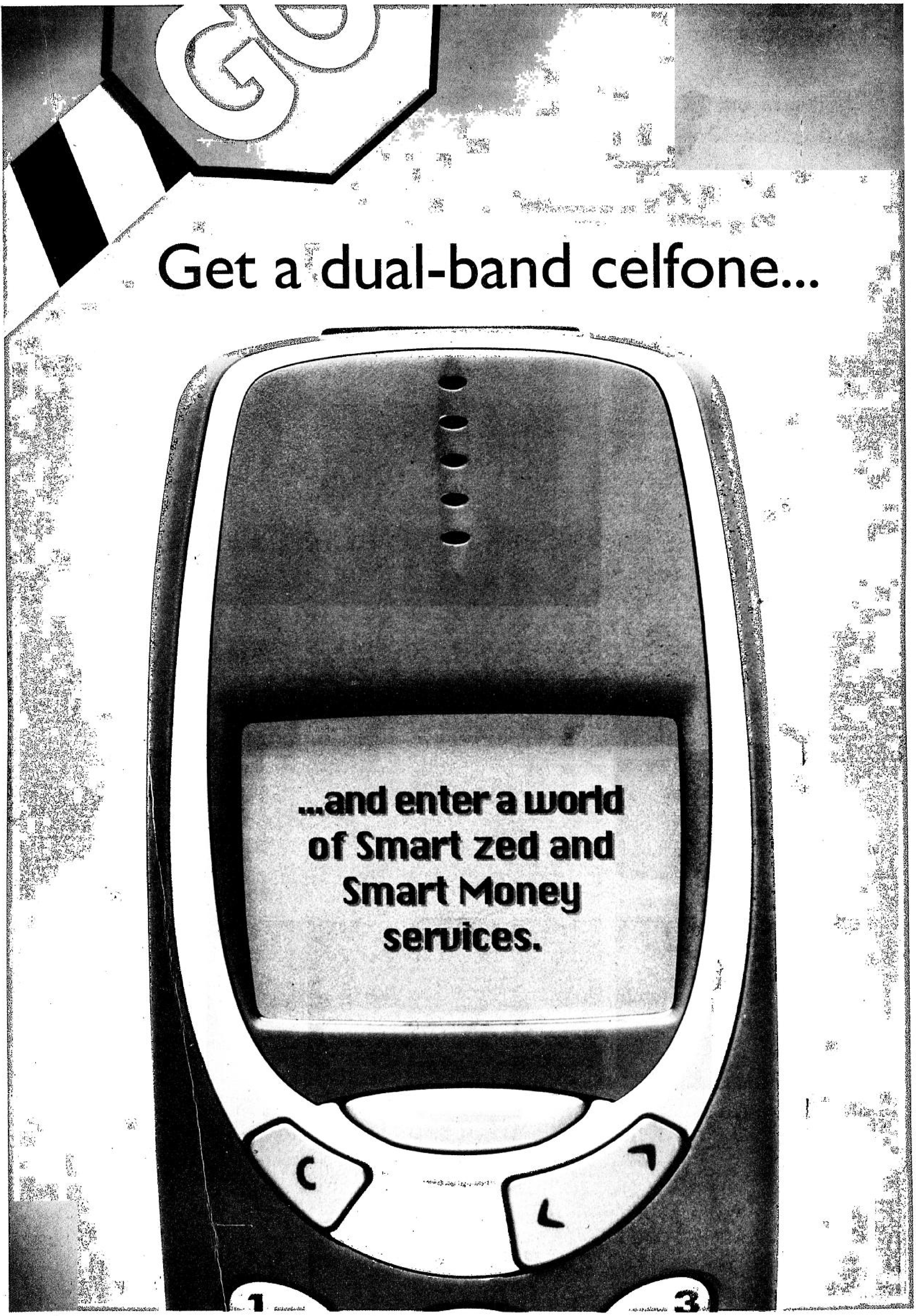
CRAIG Tuason

CARLENE Aguilar, Yo Ocampo and Anjelly Gamboa

CECILE Ysmael and Peachy Veneracion

RUSTOM Padilla


RITCHIE and Faith Lavarro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TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor

Still pristine Palanan

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY AMADÍS MA. GUERRERO

> The weather's unpredictable, but early mornings are cool throughout the year because of the greenery

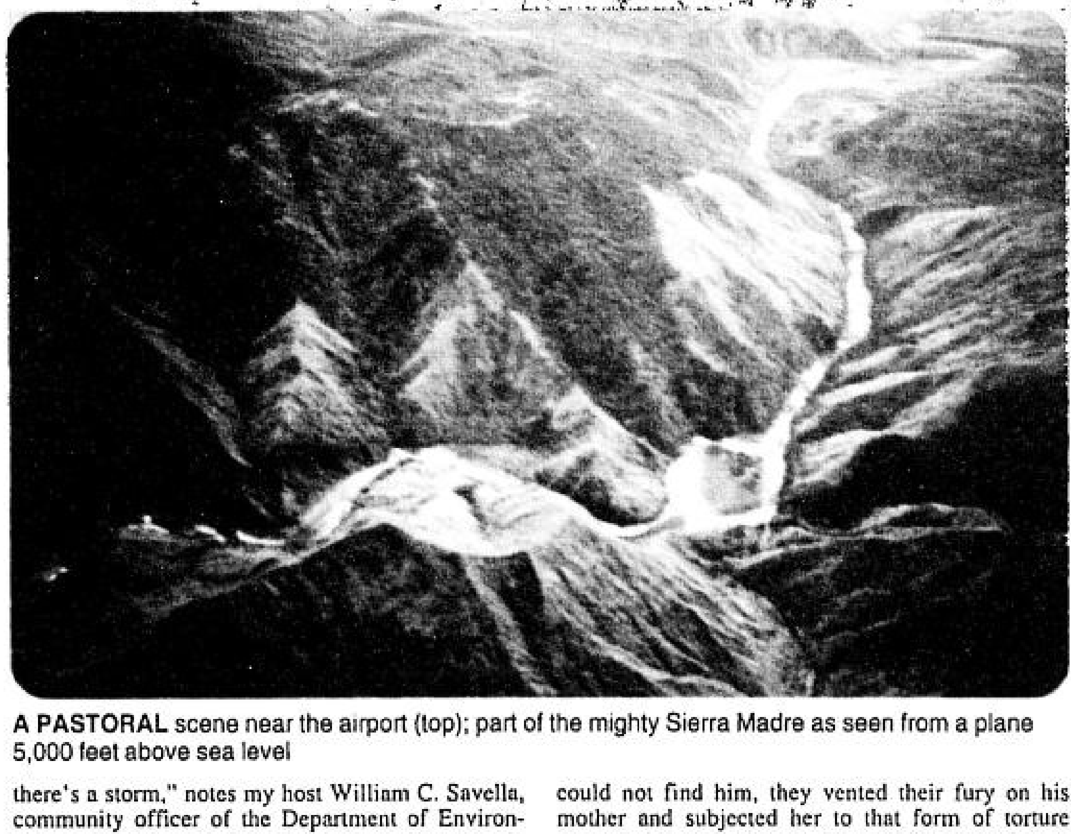
AH, but the eastern coast of Isabela—bracketed by the mighty northern Sierra Madre mountains, with their remarkable biodiversity, and the turbulent Pacific Ocean, with its treacherous undertow—is vastly different from the rest of the province.

There are the four coastal towns that are beacons to adventure tourists and lovers of seascapes: Maconacon, Divilacan, Palanan (better known as the site of the last stand of the First Philippine Republic under President Emilio Aguinaldo), and, farther south, Dinapigue.

The weather here is unpredictable. It may be sunny in the morning but raining hard in the afternoon. When it's warm, it's very hot, but early mornings are cool throughout the year because of the greenery and because pollution is barely existent. During the wet months, roughly from October to February, storms from the Pacific Ocean may pelt the eastern seaboard, churning up huge waves.

Summer is, naturally, the best time to visit eastern Isabela, although the other months may also bring relatively good weather.

Getting to Palanan and the other isolated towns of Isabela may be an adventure in itself. Sturdy vessels—"They can endure big waves except when there's a storm," notes my host William C. Savella, community officer of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the province—ply the route to Palanan from Santa Ana, Cagayan (12 hours); Baler, Aurora; and Mauban, Quezon (24 hours). The ferry boats cater mostly to traders and their cargo.



A PASTORAL scene near the airport (top); part of the mighty Sierra Madre as seen from a plane 5,000 feet above sea level

Trekkers often choose the 54-kilometer Aguinaldo Route from San Mariano, through the mountains and forests, and finally the Palanan town center, along the river which leads to the bay, where the revolutionary leader fell to the Americans on March 23, 1901.

This year is the centenary of that event, which was observed with appropriate ceremonies, including a four-day trek by mountaineers from Metro Manila, in the town on that day. Experienced trekkers can negotiate the route in one or two days. But the indigenous Dumagat, who live in the area, can traverse the mountains in 12 hours.

CRUISING down the river on the way to Dicotcotan Beach

THE PALANAN Church

Frontier

Today Palanan, despite some signs of progress such as an airport, retains its frontier ambience. The residents feel neglected by the national and provincial governments, with politicians dropping by only during an election campaign. Cellular phones are of no use here, and there is no TV (although there's VHS).

Mayor Natividad A. Bernardo, originally from Tumauini, came to Palanan in 1966 and recalls that "there were only a few houses then." She married Angel Bernardo, who became the mayor. And when his term was up, she succeeded him.

An old-timer, Wilberto V. Donato, who looks after the convent-house, recalls anecdotes about Aguinaldo as told by his parents and grandparents.

It seems the general liked to dance, and apparently when he was in Palanan, it was one party after another. But unknown to him, American troops led by Gen. Frederick Funston, aided by Macabebe Scouts, were closing in. Aguinaldo was captured through deceit, with the Americans posing as prisoners of war. It was the day after another party-to celebrate his birthday.

What Donato remembers from personal experience, although he was only a child then, is the Japanese Occupation.

The Japanese were looking for his father, Victor, who was a mapmaker for the US Navy. When they could not find him, they vented their fury on his mother and subjected her to that form of torture known as the "water cure." Mercifully, her life was spared.

"I witnessed dogfights between the Americans and Japanese planes but I was too young to be scared," Donato recalls. "US destroyers bombarded the Japanese camp from the sea. Some of the Japanese surrendered, but others retreated to the forest. They could not believe that (General) Yamashita had surrendered."

Flying

The most convenient way to get to Palanan, provided visibility is good, is by plane. There are 7-seat planes that fly to the town from Tuguegarao City in Cagayan (TradChem Airlines) and from Cauayan in Isabela (Cyclone Airways).

The 45-minute ride is a treat in itself. From an altitude of 5,000 feet or so, you gaze down upon intact forests, valleys, peaks, vegetation, meandering streams and rivers, dipterocarp species, mangroves, narra and almaciga trees. There are beech (*agojo del monte*), mossy, molave-type and bonsai forests.

This is the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park, all of 359,486 hectares and spanning nine towns in Isabela. It has hundreds, possibly thousands, of plant species.

"When it comes to area, China may be the biggest. But we have the most complete biodiversity," says Richard V. Guzman, who documents protected areas.

Explains Savella, who is concurrent protected areas superintendent of the DENR: "We have the greater number of species, and there are many other undiscovered species."

The Park is also home to common fauna like wild doves, birds, butterflies, snakes, deer, sea eagles and wild boar, as well as endangered species like cloud rats, *kalaw* birds, flame-breasted fruit doves, Philippine eagles and, in the coastal areas, *pawikan* (marine turtle) and *dugong* (sea cow).

"I saw a cloud rat once," says park ranger Anâtalio P. Donato. "They're bigger than cats, as big as wildcats."

Another park ranger, Rodolfo C. Zabala, narrates the story of a big, white-breasted sea eagle "almost two feet tall, with each wing expanded to almost a foot," which was accidentally trapped and injured in a barangay captain's fishing net.

The official took care of the eagle for more than three months, and then released it to the wild. But the eagle had become domesticated, and would return to demand food. It took some time before it was able to adjust and return to its natural habitat.

The waters off eastern Isabela teem with edible shells, lobsters, shrimps, squid, octopus, sharks and all kinds of fish like lapu-lapu, blue marlin, yellowfin tuna, tulingan, and talakitok.

The park rangers report that off Bicobian, a coastal barangay of Divilacan, there are thousands of whales and dolphins.

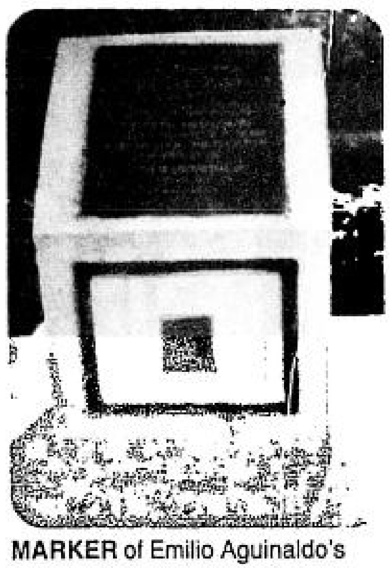
"They surface in summer when the waters are warm, around 8-10 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.," says Zabala. "There are thousands of them. And the dolphins and whales travel in groups, small groups as well as big groups."

Some 1,200 Dumagat live in the park, along with a handful of "tenured migrants" or Ilocano, Bicolano, Visayan and Igorot settlers who stayed on even after logging operations had ceased.

"The communities are now aware of the need to protect the environment," observes Savella.

Some of the Dumagat depend on the sea, others on wildlife. "They have a big role to play in the protection of our park, so according to protected area law, the Dumagat have the right to hunt during the hunting season," Savella adds.

Nevertheless, "it is difficult to prevent illegal activities (like timber poaching)," points out forester Eduardo M. Angadol of Conservation International Philippines, a "pure Igorot" (Kankana-ey) from Mountain Province.



MARKER of Emilio Aguinaldo's last stand

"The Dumagat have no livelihood. We provide this through grants and our agroforestry program, so they can plant," he says.

Another agency that is coordinating with the DENR in preserving the environment and helping the Dumagat is Plan International Philippines.

Lodging

There are no inns in Palanan. But tourists can stay at the Dicotcotan Park and Beach Resort along Palanan Bay.

One can take an outrigger pump boat from the Aguinaldo Shrine in the town proper, which overlooks the picturesque Palanan River. The 45-minute cruise down the river is yet another treat. The waters are dark green and unpolluted. On one side are dense foliage and a vegetation-covered gorge; on the other are the plains, a sprinkling of trees, and the mountain ranges in the distance.

Dicotcotan Beach is idyllic, comparable with the beaches in Palawan and Bohol with its rock formations, tree-lined cove, beige-white sand, and corals.

The resort has native-style cottages and a nipa multi-purpose hall. This is an ideal place for planning meetings and seminar-workshops, with the roar of the waves serving as an *obligato*.

One will surely be taken by still pristine Palanan. It has been bypassed for now by economic progress, but not by history. It may be materially poor, but it is rich in ecological biodiversity.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

'Fun Ship' cruises

CARNIVAL Cruise Lines, a unit of Carnival Corp. (NYSE: CCL), recently took delivery of its new, $375-million cruise ship, the 88,500-ton, 2,124-passenger Carnival Spirit, at a traditional hand-over ceremony at the Kvaerner Masa-Yards in Helsinki, Finland.

The Carnival Spirit, the 15th vessel in the "Fun Ship" fleet, began its inaugural season with a 16-day Panama Canal cruise that left Miami April 29 and arrived in Los Angeles May 15.

The ship will sail on a 14-day Panama Canal cruise departing Oct. 20 from San Diego to Miami, where it is scheduled to run a unique, eight-day Caribbean program beginning Nov. 3.

The Carnival Spirit offers innovative dining and entertainment options, including the line's first wedding chapel, a large conference center, a reservations-only supper club and a spectacular outdoor wrap-around promenade.

Mina D. Tanchi, executive vice president of Sampaguita Travel, Carnival's appointed tour wholesaler in the Philippines, said the "Top 50 Deals" range from $240 (3-day Bahamas cruise on the Fantasy) to $610 (7-day Caribbean cruise on the Sensation).

Bookings are accepted at phone 892-1121-23 or fax 819-5037 or e-mail sampagui@compass.com.ph. Or you may book directly at www.sampaguitatravels.com.

Macau promo

"MERRY Macau" is the latest travel sales pitch of the BPI credit card in cooperation with the Macau Government Tourist Office.

Under BPI's "Travel Madness" promo, guests can tour the historic Portuguese-Chinese territory that is now known as the Macau Special Administrative Region for the lowest monthly installment of US$13.05 (around P640) for 24 months, or a straight payment of $222.45 per person.

The promo is open to all BPI credit card holders of good standing, and runs until Dec. 15.

The Macau travel package is available at participating agencies Ark Travel Express, Caravan Travel & Tours, Kenstar, Lucky Travel Corp., Manila International Travel, Philscan Travel & Tours, Reli Tours and Travel, Rajah Travel Corp., Universal Holidays, and World Master Tours & Travel.

To HK for free

UNTIL July 15, Cathay Pacific is awarding business and economy class travelers to Europe a free ticket to Hong Kong on the same class traveled.

The airline's European destinations are Paris, Rome, London, Manchester, Frankfurt, Amsterdam and Istanbul.

Philippine residents who booked and purchased round-trip tickets in the Philippines (where the flight must originate and terminate) starting April 30, 2001, are qualified for the free Hong Kong ticket.

For reservations and inquiries, contact Cathay Pacific at 848-2747 in Manila, (32) 254-0756 in Cebu, or any local travel agency.

Northern rediscovery

CAUSEWAY Tours invites you to rediscover the beauty of the North via its "Northern Discovery."

The itinerary for the June 9-12 trip includes a tour of Subic, duty-free shopping, three-night stay at top hotels/resorts in Zambales, La Union and Tarlac, and visits to historic and religious sites in Botolan, Iba, Manaoag, Alaminos, San Fernando City, Agoo, Luna and Luisita.

Also included are stops at the beaches of Iba and San Juan, a daylong adventure at Hundred Islands in Alaminos, and visits to the sugar plantation and mill of Hacienda Luisita and to the Aquino Center.

For inquiries and reservations, call 853-8728 and 853-8652.

Two good for Saturday

NEW World Renaissance Hotel is offering a weekend treat.

For P2,999+, one can enjoy an overnight stay in a deluxe room with buffet breakfast for two at the Coffee Shop, daily newspaper, mineral water, and complimentary use of the gym, sauna, and swimming pool.

Get another room on the same night or extend one night more for P999+, complete with all the perks!

The offer is available on Friday and Saturday nights only until June 30. For inquiries and reservations call 811-6888 ext. 3700.

'Dream vacation'

AT THE ISLAND Cove Resort and Leisure Park in Kawit, Cavite, there's a "Dream vacation" promo valid until Sept. 30.

The package costs P2,500 on weekdays and P3,000 on weekends and includes, among others, superior accommodations for two adults and two kids aged 12 years and below, welcome drinks and a P500 food voucher.

There's also the "Any Day Getaway" promo for the budget-conscious, priced at P2,100 on weekdays (with free set breakfast for two), and P2,600 on weekends (with buffet breakfast for two).

For reservations and inquiries, call (046) 434-0210 in Cavite, or (02) 810-3740, 810-3728 and 810-5351 in Makati. Call Cavite direct through toll-free numbers 810-3718, 810-3732, 810-3764 and 810-5683. Or e-mail islacove@info.com.ph or log on to www.islandcovephil.com

Executive packages

DUSIT Mangga Dua, the city hotel of Dusit Hotels and Resorts chain in Jakarta, Indonesia, is offering guests special packages at its 71-room Sawasdee Club floors.

The Sawasdee Premier Package and Business Package come with complimentary breakfast and afternoon *hors d'oeuvres*, plus 24-hour butler service.

For details and reservations, call the Dusit Easy Booking Hot Line at (622) 1699 or course your inquiries through Dusit Hotel Nikko Manila at 867-333 ext. 3131-3135.

MISSION

Journeys of Faith Inc., an agency specializing in Catholic pilgrimages and cruises, was recently formed with one mission—to make a difference in pilgrims' lives. The moving forces (from left), Fr. Renato Jose E. Lopez, Arlina T. Onglao and Bishop Raul Q. Martirez, shown in front of the Miag-ao Church in Iloilo, have planned regular trips to the Holy Land, Europe and Macau, as well as pilgrimages for the disabled and handicapped. They have scheduled a Marian pilgrimage from Fatima to Lourdes on Sept. 19-28 and a Holy Land tour on Nov. 15-22. For inquiries, call 929-0144, fax 929-0155 or e-mail journeys@info.com.ph.

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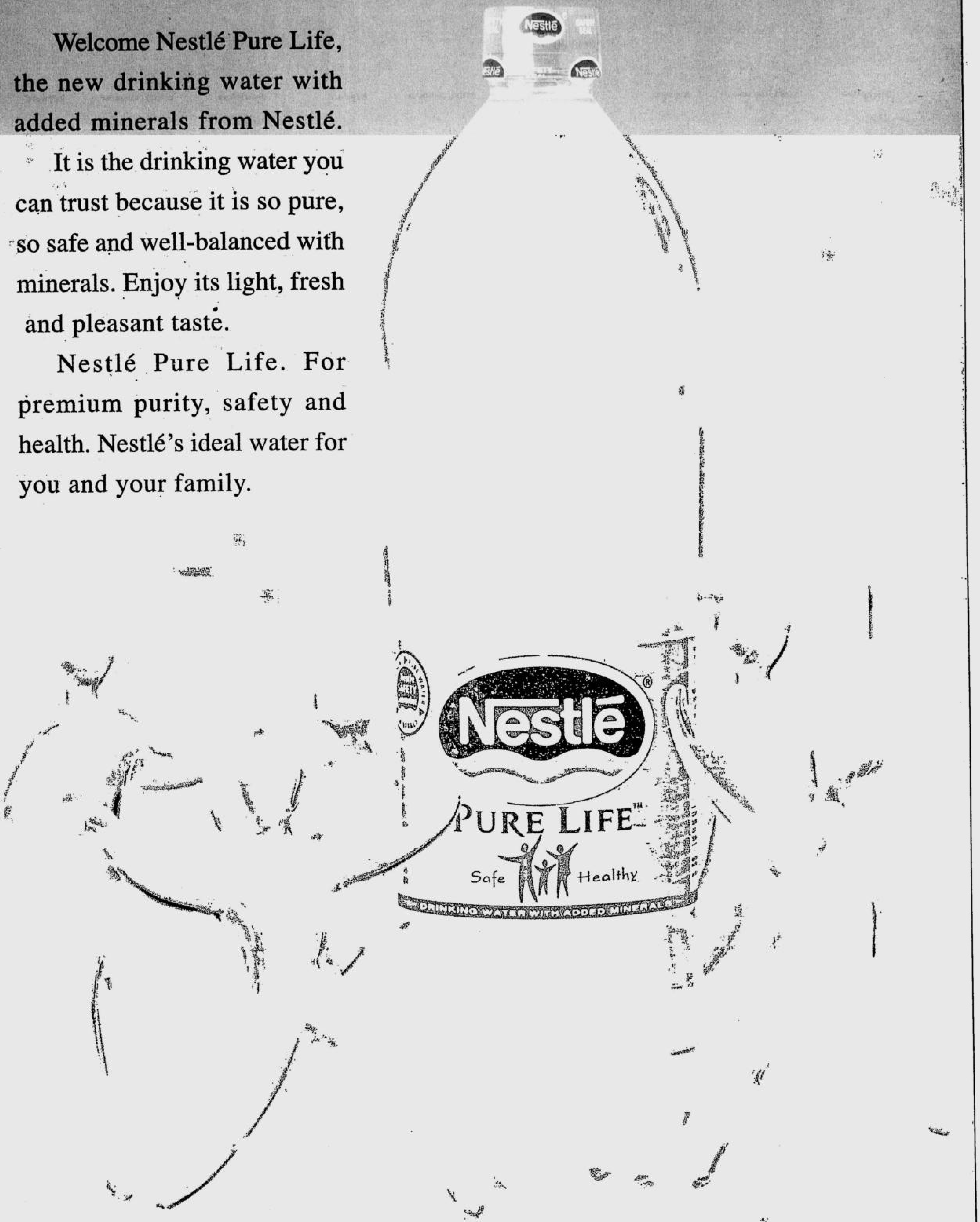
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oldies

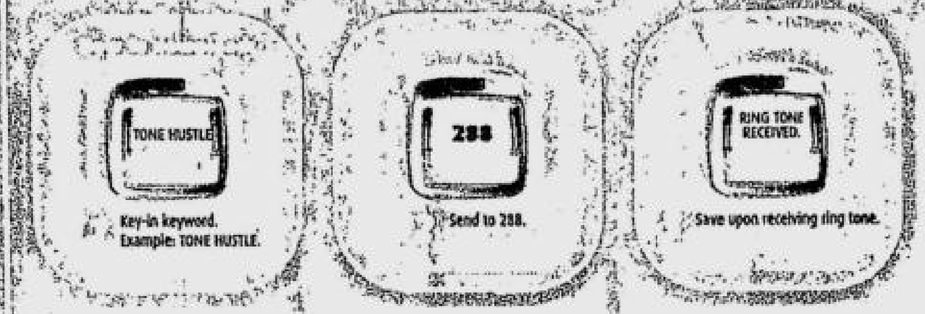
description	artist/composer	keyword
Oldies		
El Condor	Pasa Cozens	TONE ELCONDOR
Fantasy	Earth Wind and Fire	TONE FANTASY
It Might Be You	Stephen Bishop	TONE MYTBU
Light My Fire	The Doors	TONE MAFIRE
New York New York	Frank Sinatra	TONE NEWYORK
Proud Mary	CCR	TONE PROUDMRY
Rock Around The Clock	Billy Haley & His Comets	TONE ROCKAROU
The Hustle	Van McCoy	TONE HUSTLE
You Needed Me	Anne Murray/Charles Goodrum	TONE UNIDME

opm

description	artist/composer	keyword
OPM		
Burn	Kulay	TONE BURN
Delicious	Kulay	TONE DELICIOUS
Mister Love	South Border	TONE MRLOVE
Remember Me	Dapulis	TONE REMBERME

party

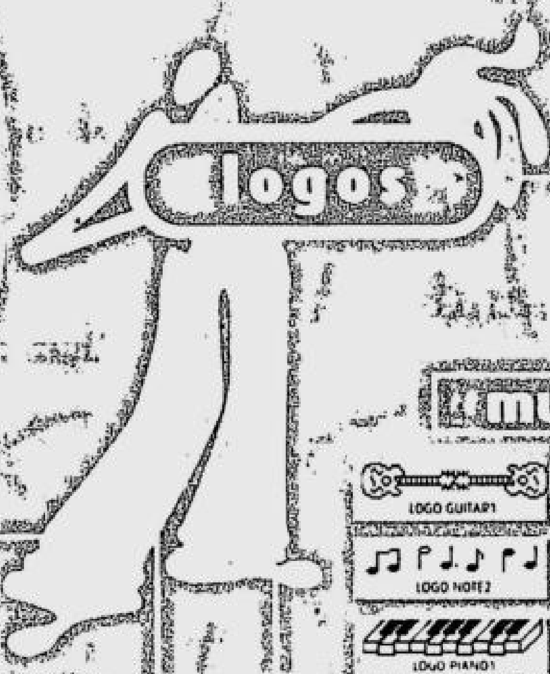
description	artist/composer	keyword
Party		
Children	Robert Miles	TONE CHLDRN
Conga	Miami Sound Machine	TONE CONGA
Love Shack	B52's	TONE LUVSHAK
Sweet like Chocolate	Shanks	TONE CHOCLT
Together Again	Janet Jackson	TONE 2GDERAGN
Vengabus(We Like to Party)	Venga Boys	TONE VENGABUS


TONE HUSTLE
288
RING TONE RECEIVED.

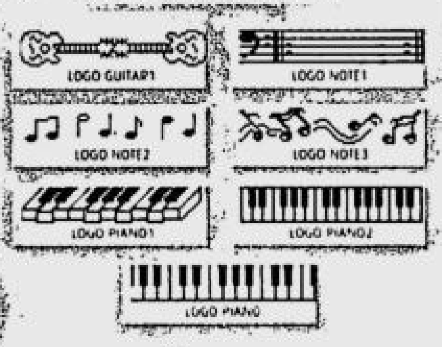
Key-in keyword. Example: TONE HUSTLE.

Send to 288.

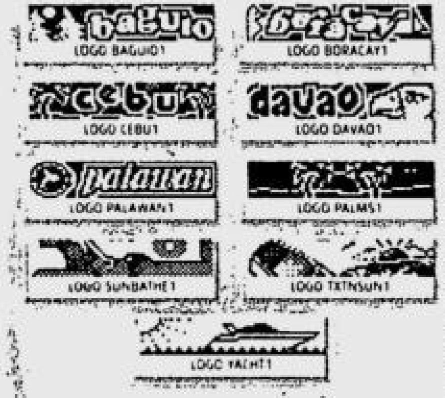
Save upon receiving ring tone.



music


LOGO GUITAR1
LOGO NOTE1
LOGO NOTE2
LOGO NOTE3
LOGO PIANO1
LOGO PIANO2
LOGO PIANO

summer


baguio
LOGO BAGUIO1
boracay
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cebu
LOGO CEBU1
davao
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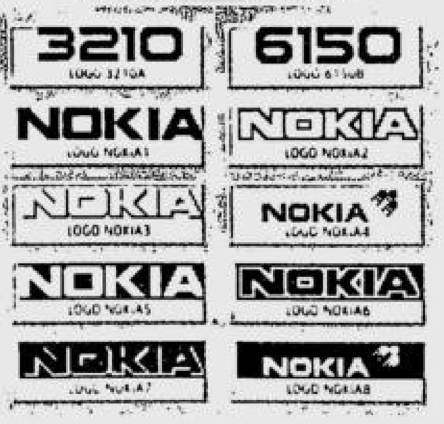
palawan
LOGO PALAWAN1
LOGO PALMS1
LOGO SUNBATHE1
LOGO TXTNSUN1
LOGO YACHT1

nokia


3210
LOGO 3210A
6150
LOGO 6150B
NOKIA
LOGO NOKIA1
NOKIA
LOGO NOKIA2
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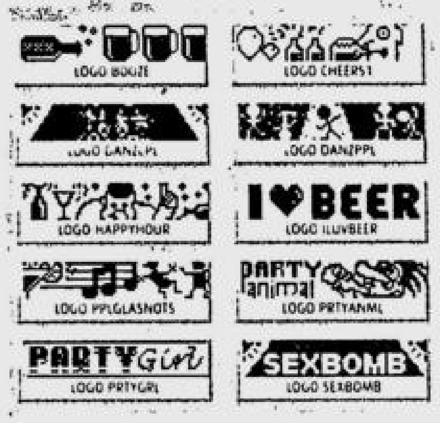
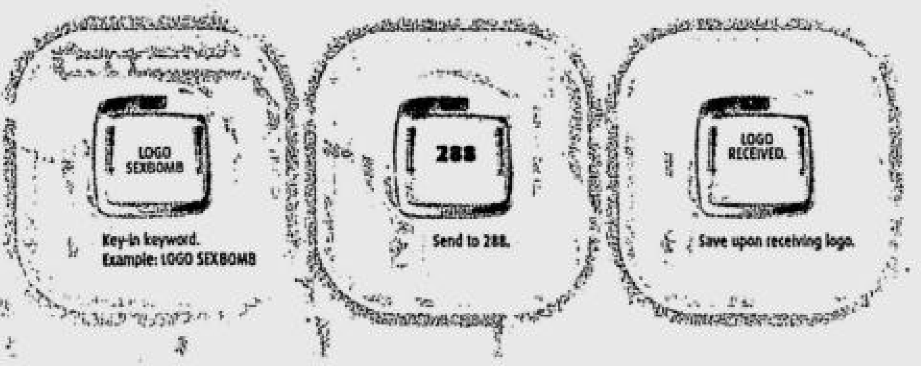
LOGO NOKIA8

party


LOGO BOOZE
LOGO CHEERS1
LOGO DANZPL
LOGO DANZPPL
LOGO HAPPYHOUR
I ♥ BEER
LOGO ILUVBEER
LOGO PPLGLASNOTS
PARTY animal
LOGO PRTYANML
PARTY Girl
LOGO PRTYGRL
SEXBOMB
LOGO SEXBOMB

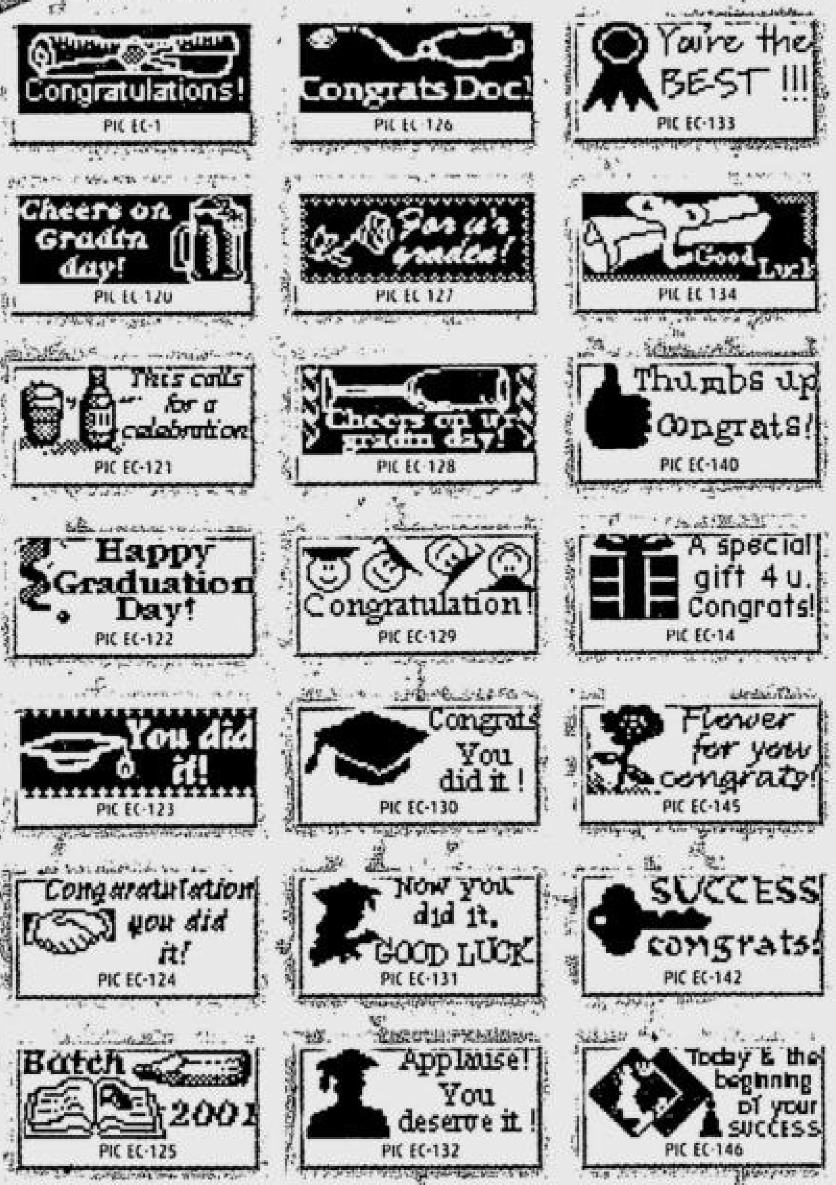

LOGO SEXBOMB
288
LOGO RECEIVED.

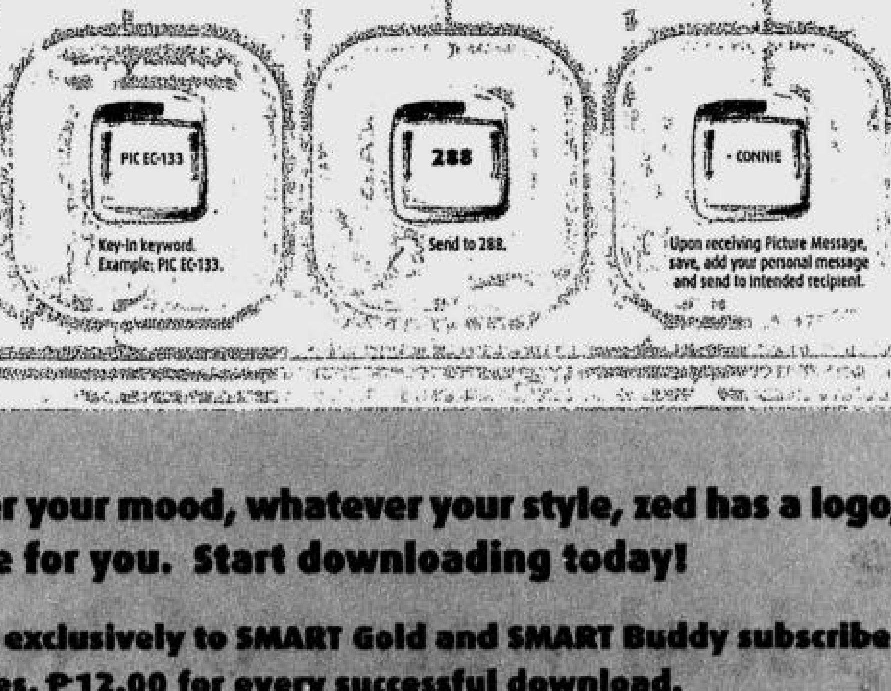
Key-in keyword. Example: LOGO SEXBOMB

Send to 288.

Save upon receiving logo.

picture messages


Congratulations!
PIC EC-1
Congrats Doc!
PIC EC-126
You're the BEST !!!
PIC EC-133
Cheers on Gradtn day!
PIC EC-120
For u'r gradtn!
PIC EC-127
Good Luck
PIC EC-134
This calls for a celebration
PIC EC-121
Cheers on ur gradtn day!
PIC EC-128
Thumbs up Congrats!
PIC EC-140
Happy Graduation Day!
PIC EC-122
Congratulation!
PIC EC-129
A special gift 4 u. Congrats!
PIC EC-14
You did it!
PIC EC-123
Congrats You did it !
PIC EC-130
Flower for you congrats!
PIC EC-145
Congratulation you did it!
PIC EC-124
Now you did it. GOOD LUCK
PIC EC-131
SUCCESS congrats!
PIC EC-142
Batch 2001
PIC EC-125
Applause! You deserve it !
PIC EC-132
Today is the beginning of your success
PIC EC-146


PIC EC-133
288
• CONNIE

Key-in keyword. Example: PIC EC-133.

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MUST-HAVE accessory, Louis Vuitton Graffiti bag

Louis Vuitton's scarce Graffiti bag, magical Baguio wedding, and Randy Andy strikes again

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST-HAVE bag—Louis Vuitton Graffiti. Every woman with a knack for style had this in her wardrobe in the last five years: Prada knapsack, Fendi baguette and Dior saddle bag. So what's new in her closet? Probably the Louis Vuitton Graffiti bag.

Designed by Marc Jacobs and renowned New York underground graffiti artist Stephen Sprouse, and launched with the Spring/Summer collection, these bags, which come in different sizes and shapes, have made every jaded shopper (read: been there, bought that) excited.

The problem is where to get it, since it seems all over the world it has been sold out. Says indefatigable Louis Vuitton Manila manager, **Gigi Mabanta**, "The Graffiti bags never even reached the shelves and now there's a long list of clients who want them." Well, such is life! The things you want always happen to be with someone else.

A beautiful wedding in Baguio. It had been quite a while since I was in Baguio (the last time was before the earthquake) and this time, I enjoyed myself, the fresh air, pine trees, fireplace and Baguio Country Club's delicious raisin bread. Although I was in the city for a wedding, I was able to take the time out with my friends to check out one restaurant that you should go to when in Baguio—Café by the Ruins. The food was great and healthy—I couldn't really get enough of the watercress salad!

Aga and **Charlene**'s wedding was simply beautiful. Show-biz weddings tend to go overboard, but this one did not. From the church's white-draped altar and floral and candle arrangements to **Joe Salazar**'s wedding gown, the prewedding reception at a tent near the John Hay Country Club, the meticulously prepared table settings, the food (by Le Soufflé—great job, **Billy King**!) and, of course, the romantic electricity of the newlyweds—all made for a very private but very elegant affair.

The highlight of the evening for me was my meeting **Vilma Santos** for the first time. She was one of the sponsors in the wedding and I must say I was mesmerized. *Ate* Vi still looks beautiful. She was also very accommodating. I was able to get a picture with her and was surprised when other men and women lined up to do the same, to which she obliged.

During the reception there was a short video presentation by the couple's closest friends. The guests had a great time being entertained by Aga alongside Side A and South Border. It was also nice to see **Richard Gomez** and Aga jamming onstage—nope, no rivalries there.

In attendance were Sen. **Loren Legarda-Leviste** and **Tony Leviste**, **Gabby Lopez**, **FPJ**, **Freddie** and **Gloria Garcia**, **Ching Cruz**, **Sander** and **Mons Tantoco**, **Chona Ampil**,

LOUIS/ p.F2

RUDE BRITANNIA. Prince Andrew and the latest royal scandal

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HOW TO JOIN
Key in **QUIZ JOIN <full name>/<address>** and send to **288**. Example: **QUIZ JOIN Bob Sanchez/5 Marikit St. Quezon City.** Once you have registered you will receive questions starting the following day and every day thereafter.

SCHEDULE OF QUESTIONS
You will receive four (4) multiple-choice questions daily. Each question will be sent at around 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

TO ANSWER QUIZ
Key in **QUIZ <question number> <answer>** and send to **288**. Example: **QUIZ 1 C**. Send your reply back to **288** within the time limit. You will be informed immediately if your answer is correct or incorrect. If your answer is incorrect, you will no longer receive questions for that day.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE RAFFLES
To qualify for the daily raffle you must submit correct answers to all four questions within the specified time. Perfect score for the day is considered 1 raffle entry for the daily and monthly raffle. The more number of days you get a perfect score, the more chances of winning ₱1,000,000.00.

TO QUIT
If you no longer wish to participate key in **QUIZ QUIT** and send to **288**. Participants who quit but previously earned a raffle entry will still be entitled to the grand raffle draw for that month.

TO VIEW RAFFLE ENTRIES
Key in **QUIZ ENTRY** and send to **288**.

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Key in **QUIZ RULES** and send to **288**.

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Louis Vuitton's scarce Graffiti bag, magical Baguio wedding, and Randy Andy strikes again

(From page F1)

Louie and **Cecille Ysmael**, Richard Gomez and **Lucy Torres**, **Ricco** and **Tina Ocampo**, **Joe** and **Gina de Venecia**, **Patrick** and **Banana Cruz-Moxey**, **Louie** and **Jojo Ocampo**, **Marco Antonio**, **Jackie Cohen**, **Betchay Vera Perez-Nakpil**, **Thirdy** and **Cathy Escaño**, **Raj** and **Apples Aberin-Sadwhani**, **Bernie** and **Marilen Concepcion**, **Dave** and **Berna Puyat**, **Albert** and **Liezel Martinez**, **Philip Cuazon** and **Amalia Fuentes** (oops, I don't think so!).

There was much controversy leading to this marriage, but in the end it pushed through. It is, after all, their life, no matter what people, like the couple's relatives, would say. Aga and Charlene are beginning their life together and, I guess, their past experiences have prepared them to face boldly the future.

Knowing the couple, we believe they subscribe to the all-important truth: No matter what happens, love conquers all! To Aga and Charlene: we wish you the best and it was a privilege to be able to have shared your happiness and love on your wedding day!

Randy Andy. It seems that every month there is a royal in hot water. This month, it's recent Manila visitor **Prince Andrew**'s turn. So while England is still reeling from "mad-cow disease," Randy Andy has given Britons more reasons to be angry. The British press recently took him to task for being photographed cavorting with swimsuit beauties on a yacht and visiting the notorious red-light district in Bangkok.

But it doesn't end there. **Sarah Ferguson** (Andrew's royal-ex) came to his defense. "Give him a break," she said. "He was on holiday enjoying himself, why don't critics leave him alone?" I wonder if their daughters had seen the pictures. Probably not.

Thank you from the Garcia family. Text messaging can save lives. **Antonio Garcia** of Mabolo Flowers related how his father was in critical condition and was in need of O+ blood. A text brigade was formed and numerous friends called in and offered help and prayers. Although his dad is still in the hospital, Garcia would like to thank all the people who had called or texted and showed concern.

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo vda de Pendelton. Our favorite mare and erstwhile socialite has had enough of the doom and gloom in Manila. This week she gives us advice on things that should make us smile.

"Oh dear! What's a girl (or, in this case, country) to do? Everywhere you turn there seems to be more depressing news! Let me recap. Thus far, we've had Edsa II and 'III,' the Battle of Malacañang, the elections, 'spy vs spy' and now the final slap, four (yes, **four**) waterless days in half of the city. I just wonder. If Manila water is fine, how come Maynilad Water is having all these problems?

"Manila can be quite depressing these days. I've been attending dinners at a number of venues over the past weeks and I have yet to see a place that is alive. After all, my mama always taught me that if you're going to eat in silence, you may as well eat at home. These days, many restaurants remind me of the meditation rooms at Chiva Som! And the few diners you see tend to be of the expatriate variety—and face it, honey, here in Manila our expats are not exactly of the first quality, if you get my drift. I mean, I like expats as much as the next girl but aid workers do not turn me on.

"So how do you explain all the closures lately? We've had Stars, Giraffe and Matina falling in quick succession. (Reminds you of all the stock brokerage houses closing—I wonder if there's a connection?) So my take is this is either the result of poverty or people have decided to follow our President's example and work hard. Or maybe both. I hope it's the latter. Don't you?

"So what's a girl to do? I guess I could take off for my Sutton Place apartment, but summer is dawning in New York and with all the excitement here, this girl has been unable to spend time exercising to get herself into a bikini! So I've decided to stay here for the time being and I've come up with a list of 10 things in Manila that still make me smile—all to help a girl get by.

"• Erap's weight reduction program—Erap is looking positively svelte these days. Far from complaining about how the government is treating him, he should thank his lucky stars for the money he is saving. I mean, he should think how much he would have to pay for a similar weight-loss regimen at Rancho La Costa or Baden Baden (or even Marie France!). I think he should stop sounding so ungrateful and count his blessings. Soon, he could be the poster child

LOUIS/ p.F3

CONGRATULATIONS to the newlyweds, Aga and Charlene Muhlach

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Louis Vuitton's scarce Graffiti bag, magical Baguio wedding, and Randy Andy strikes again

(From page F2)

of the Philippine Heart Association.

"• Comeuppance of the Mares—I am also thrilled that those old battleaxes don't seem to have a place to go. I mean, these people were never really accepted by polite society anyway (only my dear friend Loi was stupid enough to do that, but then again, she is quite into charity work). Of course, one could say I am in a similar situation (sigh), but unlike them, I have seen the light.

"• Po Na Na in Libis has become the place to go—The dance club is where you'll see young (sometimes dangerously so) hunks who do not sport an attitude. Its White party was fabulous. And the take-home dishes I got were very nice and so adoring of women at a certain age... As you can see, I'm not talking about the sort of dishes you eat, but then, hmmm, well, forget the analogy—that's another story for another time.

"• Vodka—Yes, my old reliable. And if you're anywhere near being in the know, you'll stock up on Brannvin, the Swedish vodka. It's so smooth it's like mother's milk. And it's so unavailable in Manila. Ha! Ha! Ha! I have my hoard and so should you.

"• Senator Bovina's final exit—I guess it's off to moo heaven for Clarabelle. I think we'll miss her. To paraphrase **Richard Nixon** in 1962, we won't have her to kick around anymore... And not a moment too soon.

"• Hmmmm... I seem to have gotten writer's block. Ah well, I'll just have another Brannvin and I'm sure I'll find at least 50 more things to make one smile. At least I hope I will."

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

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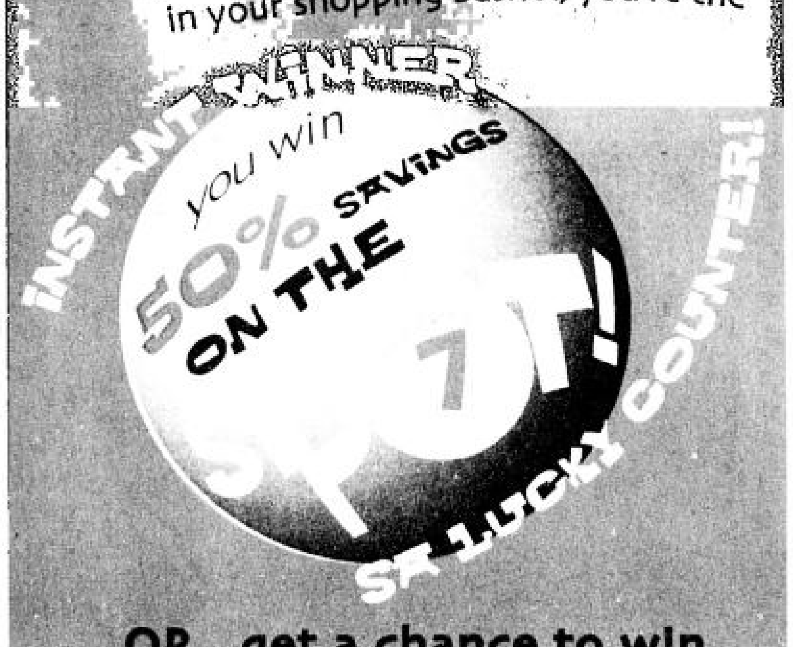

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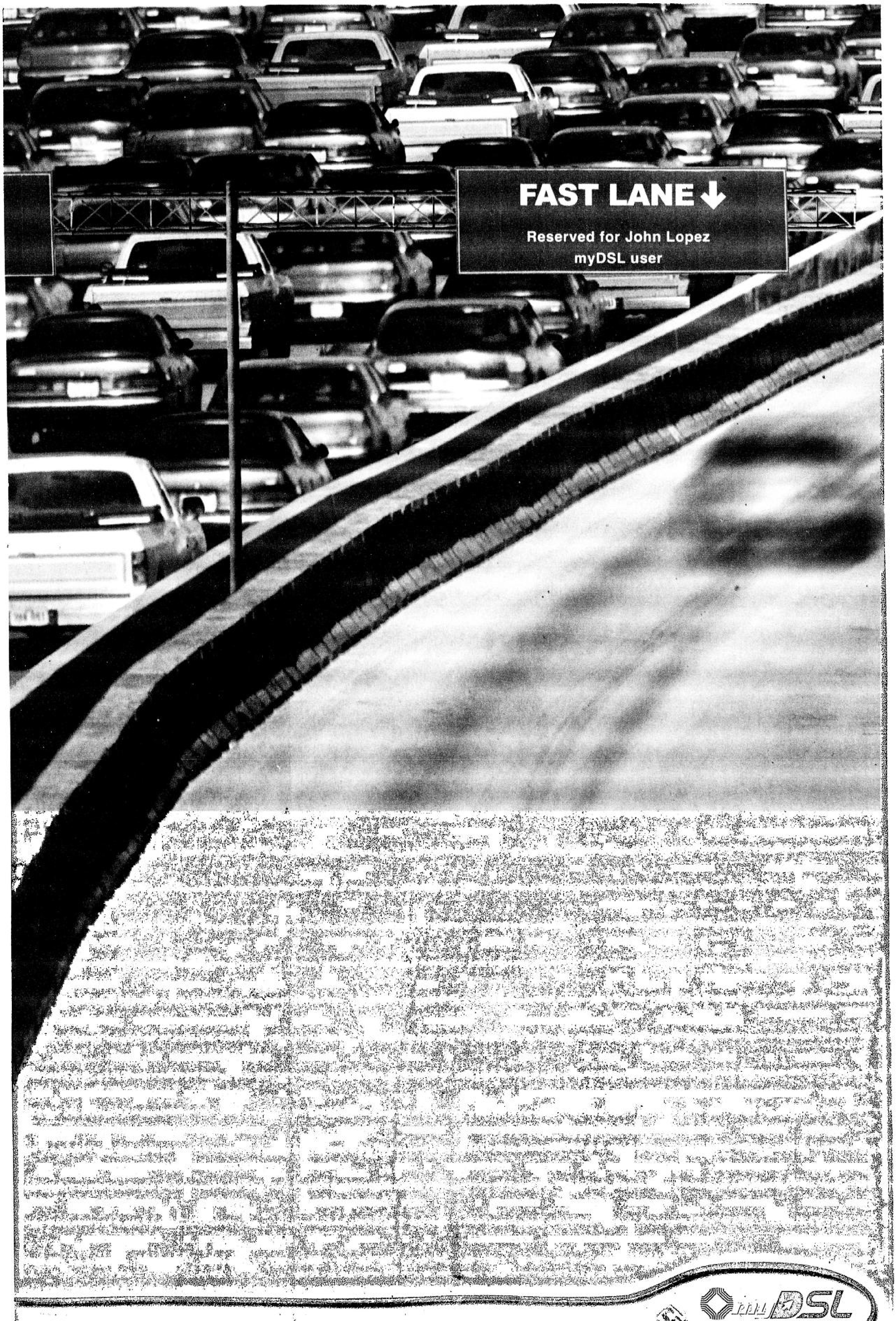

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Sunday **LIFESTYLE**

LUCRESIA Kasilag

Whole notes, love notes and green notes at the park

COMPILED BY CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO

WE come in peace. That seems to be the message of the Picnic at the Park planned for the morning of June 5, World Environment Day, by National Artists, cultural agencies, museums, artists and environmental groups at the Arroceros Forest Park in Manila. Guest of honor will be reelected Manila Mayor **Lito Atienza**.

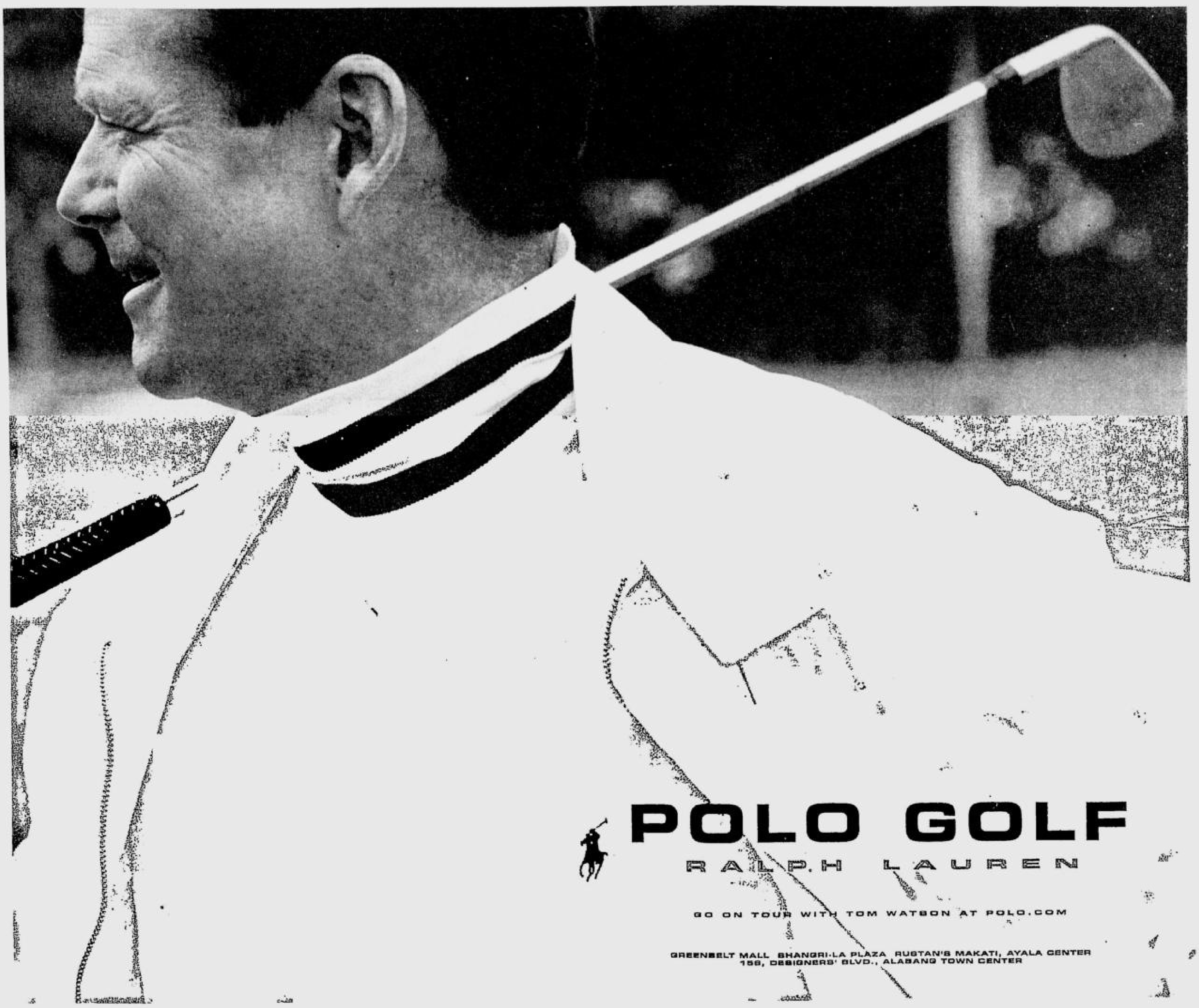
Soprano **Josephine Roces**, baritones **Elmo Makil**, **Gamaliel Viray**, **Emmanuel Gregorio** with **Lourdes Gregorio** on the piano; Philippine Music Ensemble Kasarinlan under **Felipe de Leon Jr.**; Andres Bonifacio Concert Chorus under **Jerry Dadap**; and the Madrigal Singers under **Andrea O. Veneracion** will be offering music.

Writers **Gilda Cordero Fernando**, **Nick Joaquin**, **F. Sionil Jose**, **Leonor Orosa Goquinco** and **Alejandro Roces** will rekindle memories of Mehan Garden. The Bayanihan Dance Troupe will also be performing.

Finally, Artists for the Environment chair **Lucresia Kasilag** will deliver a "Pakiusap" ever so gently, as is Tita King's way.

WHOLE/ p.G4

F. Sionil Jose



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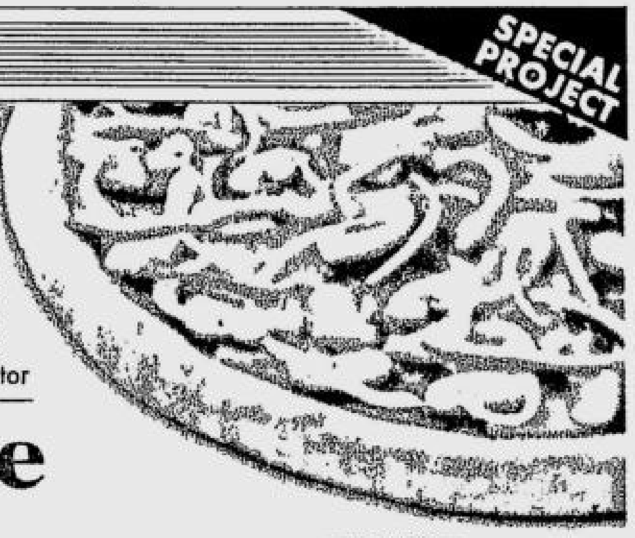
Domino's Pizza



SONNY GUEVARA, Account Manager
SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH
ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

Time and toppings are of the essence

What? A lawyer managing a pizza chain? Well, the man has an eye for details, and that's what making and delivering great pizza is all about

BY CHARLES E. BUBAN

YOU would think lawyer Art P. Tugade would at least hire someone to look over Domino's pizza stores. After all, he is the Chief Operating Officer of the Transnational Diversified Group of Companies (TDG), an Asia-based group that holds business interests in transport, logistics, shipping, investments, maritime, e-training, travel and tours, food and airline among others. But Tugade somehow finds time to devote a bit of himself—and his expertise—to each of the Group's diversified businesses. In fact, what insights and bits of knowledge he learns from one, he tries to apply to the whole group.

> *The corporate success story of Domino's fits Tugade's philosphy to a tee*

TUGADE: Quality comes with speed

And this is no strange habit for someone who has been, for many decades and in many careers, driven to excel in everything he gets involved in. Just recently, he was given the most coveted award in TDG—the Ambassador Antonio C. Delgado Achievement Award, which is the highest achievement recognition given to anyone who has exhibited exemplary service, dynamic leadership and professionalism toward the Group's growth and success. Furthermore, TDG was inspired to award Tugade for his drive, encouragement, and unselfish sharing of wisdom and time with all its stakeholders. According to Tugade, no amount of words was enough to describe how he felt when it was awarded to him. He further claimed that most of what he knows he learned from the late Ambassador, but he can never equal the greatness of the man.

Tugade is candid on why his group sought to acquire Domino's Pizza. He said that when their Chief Executive Officer. Jose Roberto Delgado, learned about the pizza chain's Heightened Time Awareness (HTA) program, he easily fell in love with it and envisioned it to be integrated in the TDG culture. "One of our objectives in TDG is to discover and adapt processes that will further the effectiveness of our business and system. When we learned about HTA, we thought embracing it would infuse a new level of vitality to the group. With HTA, every step is monitored, every minute counts, and quality comes with speed," notes Tugade.

The HTA, it seemed, complemented Tugade's personal work ethics as well. A lawyer by profession, Tugade doesn't mind the multi-faceted jobs he handles. Variety keeps his spirits up and the lethargy of boredom at bay. "If you enjoy what you do and decide to be the best, the problem is already half done. If to be the best in every activity you do is in your system, the balancing act becomes very easy," he once said.

The corporate success story of Domino's fits Tugade's philosophy to a tee. Indeed, in TDG's acquisition of the exclusive Philippine franchise of Domino's, he has learned so many things about the company: how it started small and eventually became the world leader in pizza delivery today. "Domino's has over 7,046 stores worldwide. We intend to replicate that feat here in the Philippines by turning Domino's into the leading pizza delivery company in the country." Only on its 7th year in the country, Domino's pizza stores in the Philippines now count at 30.

Franchising was something new for Tugade's group seven years ago. "You have to get partners who are sure to be hands-on in this business... equally passionate and committed partners. Since the relationship is long-term, it should be based on trust and respect," he explains.

Tugade believes one wins with franchising. "What's good about franchising is that the system you will implement has been tried and tested elsewhere. More than 65 countries can attest to the success of Domino's in their respective places," he stresses.

A different pizza experience

Domino's has been dedicated and committed to quality service, product and delivery excellence for more than 40 years, making it the world leader in pizza delivery. But Domino's doesn't just deliver pizza, it also delivers a great pizza eating experience. "We don't scrimp on ingredients and we have a team that ensures your pizza comes to you hot, fresh and delicious—fast," assures Tugáde.

Fresh and delicious pizza has always been a priority at Domino's. Aside from pioneering the multi-billion pizza delivery industry in Michigan, US 40 years ago, Domino's is also responsible for various concepts and materials used in the industry today. These innovations include corrugated pizza boxes, insulated bags to transport pizzas in, pizza screen, fiberglass dough trays, and pie cutting procedures, among others.

In the Philippines, Domino's is known for its 30-minute delivery and 12-minute carry-out guarantees. Domino's guarantees at-the-door delivery within 30 minutes or customer gets P100 off on next pizza order. Carry-out orders are served within 12 minutes or they are free.

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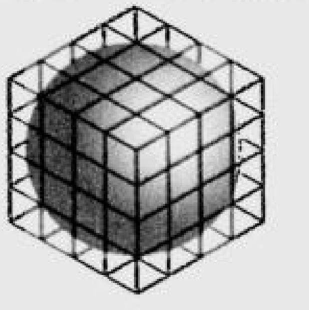

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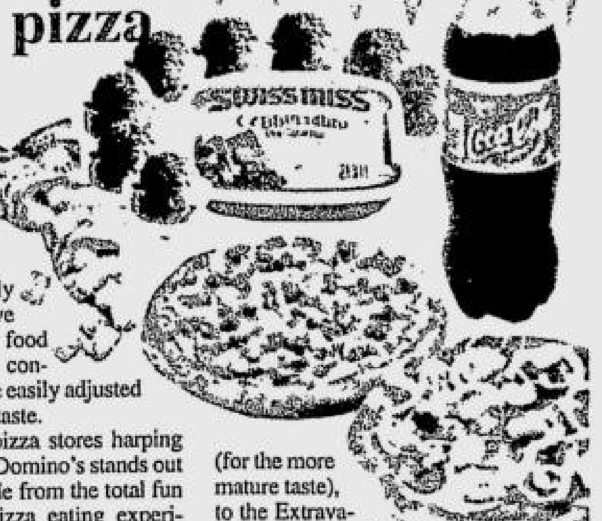
Great reasons to try a great pizza



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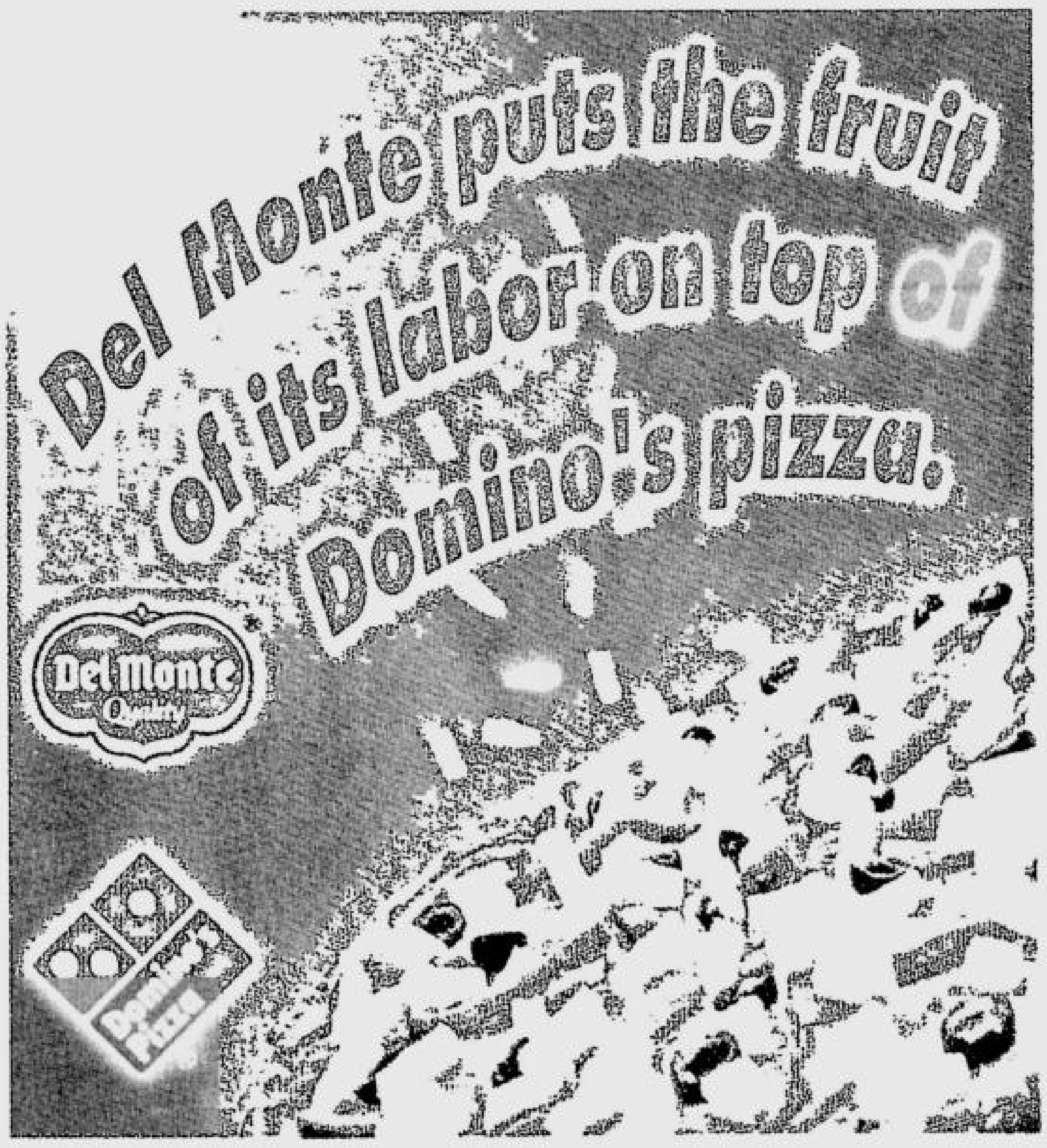
This combo is available at all Domino's Pizza outlets for only P555 (save P116). The Celebration Combo serves six to eight persons.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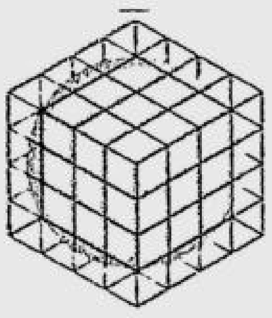

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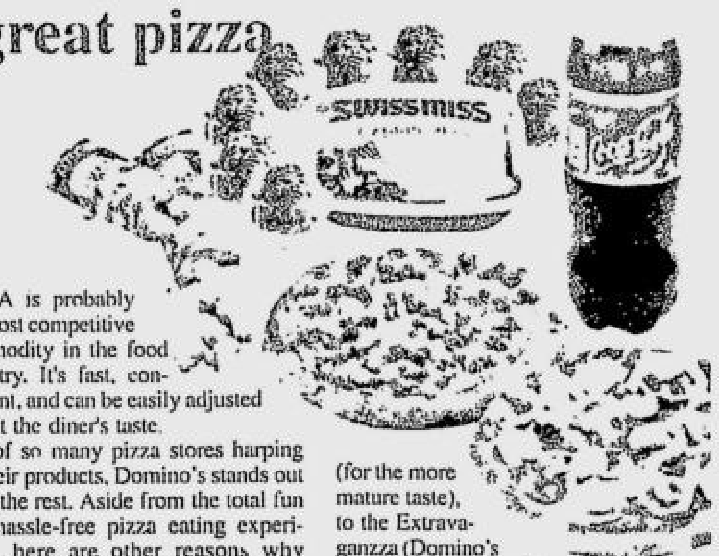

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Del Monte puts the fruit of its labor on top of Domino's pizza.
Del Monte

Coca-Cola
enjoy

Coke congratulates
Domino's Pizza
on its 7th Anniversary

HAPPY
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FROM:
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JAKA FOOD PROCESSING CORP.

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HURRAH!!!
As DOMINO'S PIZZA
Celebrates its 7th Anniversary!
Over the years of good business and partnership,
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Cheers to seven wonderful years of delivering pizza satisfaction!
Your excellence in providing marketing, training and operations support, no doubt,
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We salute you, Pizza Delivery Experts!
ROUNCE

Domino's *The Pizza Deliv*

TEAMWORK makes a great pizza

A DAY AT DOMINO'S

Snappy, cheerful, disciplined pizza deliveries

IT'S 9 a.m. at Domino's Pizza West Avenue. Opening time is at 10, but this early the young men and women of Domino's delivery team are up and about getting their store ready for another busy day in the neighborhood.

The store supply is checked, the pizza ingredients double-checked. Uniforms, aprons, motorcyles, helmets, stoves, the dough, the pizza toppings—everything is prepared, cleaned, arranged, polished, heated, or cooled.

The clock strikes 10, and everyone but everyone is ready and raring to take orders.

Crisel Marte, Domino's West Avenue store manager, has had numerous youthful employees under her in her four years of managing the store. At the top of her mind when asked what valuable lessons working with Domino's Pizza imparts on its people is the value of discipline and efficiency in an atmosphere of teamwork.

"When you work in Domino's, you learn how to work as a team," she stresses. "And that team includes everyone in the store—from the manager to the delivery crew to the marketing team."

RIDERS mind their pizza cargo--and their riding

Crisel adds that an experience in dynamic food companies such as Domino's Pizza provides good training ground for people who aim to manage their own stores someday. "Especially in Domino's Pizza, where most of our customers are phone-in, meaning your service goes beyond the walls of the store."

Looks can be deceiving. The West Avenue store of Domino's Pizza is unimposing—standing along a row of other business establishments in the "trendier" stretch of West Avenue near where it intersects with busy Quezon Avenue. Inside the store, however, the phones keep ringing.

Crisel is amazed that the store gets orders even from employees of nearby posh restaurants. They serve their own pasta and pizzas there, yet they still crave for our pizza. Awesome!" she giggles.

Peak ordering times occur between late afternoon to early evening. The store closes at 12 midnight, but Crisel says the store often extends its closing time to accommodate the orders of late-night employees and bar-hoppers in the West Avenue area.

Amidst all that busyness, Crisel points out that the team keeps its sights focused on making that "perfect 10" pizza and an on-the-dot delivery time within 30 minutes after the call is placed. "Every detail of our customers' pizzas is given importance here. We strive for that perfect edge, that perfect size, the perfect toppings and perfect baking. They really get their money's worth with every slice they get." Crisel says.

Michelle Balmeo, 19, customer service representative who has been working at Domino's for four months, describes her work as "demanding but fun."

"I have to be super friendly on the phone, listen to every detail my customers ask for. And then after that I have to constantly follow-up the orders with the crew to make sure everything is delivered," she narrates. "But I have made friends with the team here, and we do everything with a smile," she adds.

Junnel Buenaflor and Ronnie de Guzman, 19 and 20, riders, consider numerous factors whenever they make the delivery. "We don't just make sure that your pizza comes to you hot and fresh, we make sure that we also take care of ourselves out in the road," quips Junnel.

The policy at Domino's Pizza, he says, is that food preparation is done as early as possible so as not to unduly pressure the riders. "In 12 minutes the pizza has to be ready for delivery, giving us ample time to make the delivery unhurried," said Ronnie.

Domino's Pizza guarantees delivery within 30 minutes after the order has been placed. That's within the 1.6-kilometer delivery radius. Outside of it, though, and not exceeding 10 kilometers, Domino's guarantees delivery within 45 minutes, tops.

Jerome Tomacruz, manager candidate of Domino's Pizza Aurora Boulevard branch, says the store's team members not only learn the tricks of the trade from one of the best-performing pizza delivery companies in the world, they also learn more about understanding the needs of co-workers, be it work-related or personal.

"We're like brothers and sisters here. We share our joys and our lives with each other. Even though we know that eventually our young team members will have to move on to pursue their own ambitions, we know that the Domino's work ethics has rubbed off on them in a positive way," Jerome muses.

Sometime past 12 midnight, after the last customer is served, the crew calls it a day. The energy level is still there. Everything is put back in their proper places. The smiles are as wide as ever, the laughter among young, idealistic workers as exuberant as the opening hour. When the neon lights of Domino's are switched off, the image of smiling team members lingers.

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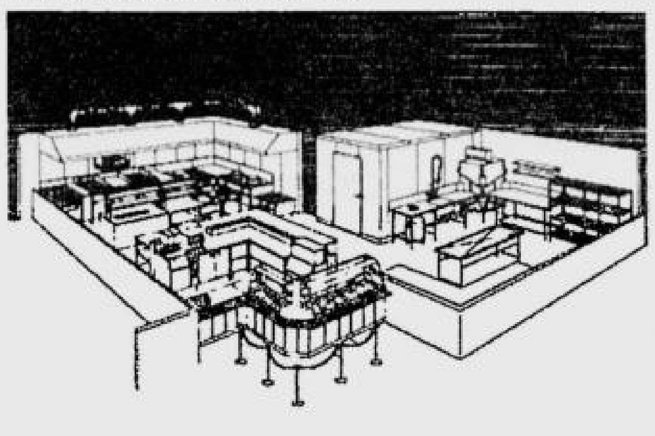

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People, Events & Products
ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

Domino's offers store tours

WHOEVER said that education is limited to the four walls of the classroom has not yet been to a Domino's Store Tour.

Domino's Pizza is offering store tours to schools, youth organizations or even families where they can learn hands-on how and try to make their own pizza.

"The store tour can be very educational and fun-filled experience for the children. Not only do they learn pizza preparation hands-on, they are also able to apply basic learnings from school to pizza making," says Armand Vicente, Domino's asisstant training officer. Young kids have a great time learning geometry by way of identifying various shapes of toppings, math by adding or taking away pepperoni from the pizza, science by watching the pizza bake... and this is just the beginning.

More fun is in store for everyone when little hands start slapping dough balls and putting their favorite toppings on their own pizzas. And with their efforts, not only do they bring home and eat their pizza masterpieces but they also receive a Jr. Pizzamaker Certificate which they get to keep as memento for having been a Domino's Pizzamaker.

For schools interested to know more about Domino's Store Tours, call 723-0779 to 98 during business hours, Mondays to Fridays, and ask for the marketing department.

Summer art workshop for street kids launched

EVERY child on the street has inherent rights to live decently and to be provided with shelter, food and other basic needs. From a loose unstructured life in the streets, children should be given a new lease in life, new hope, new dreams, new reasons to live and be provided with an environment where they will be protected, secured, wanted and loved. Their self-worth and self-esteem should be raised to develop positive values that will give new meaning to their lives.

Self-expression is one vital aspect in motivating these children to look at life in a better prospective. With this in mind, Kanlungan sa Er-Ma Ministry, with the support of Byloz Children's Wear, recently launched a new campaign to help these children have a better outlook in life through the arts.

The campaign starts off with a Summer Art Training Workshop for the street children staying at the Kanlungan residence this summer vacation. They will undergo a one-week training on drawing and painting on fabrics, and will have an opportunity to earn for their unique designs. The earning opportunity is part of Kanlungan's campaign objectives to send these kids back to school this year.

Byloz, Fashion Freedom, Inc.'s children's line, supports this campaign and would pay for each design the children will make. These designs will be featured in Byloz promo bags this June.

Aside from the art workshop and livelihood assistance project, Kanlungan sa Er-Ma and Byloz are also calling on concerned individuals and other companies to help these children.

"This partnership of Kanlungan sa Er-Ma and Byloz aims to provide a better opportunity for these underprivileged children. We need a concerted effort in assisting these kids, and make better their view of life," Marijo Asuncion of Fashion Freedom said.

Kanlungan sa Er-Ma Ministry is a non-stock, non-profit, non-government organization caring for street children, the abused, the abandoned and neglected. It was established in January 1988 in response to the growing menace of exploitation among children. Kanlungan is licensed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development as a child-caring agency and accredited by the National Council of Social Development. For more than 13 years, Kanlungan was able to help, save from abuse and rehabilitate a number of children. As an instrument of rehabilitation, Kanlungan provides care to children in the drop-in temporary shelter in Ermita prior to reconciliation with families or transfer to the residential center in San Pablo, Laguna.

CENTER for Street Children

HELP THESE KIDS GO BACK TO SCHOOL
Shown in photo are the street kids of Kanlungan sa Er-Ma with administrator Sol Balbero (top, second from right) and Marijo Asuncion of Byloz Children's Wear (extreme right)

Another way of looking at the May 14 elections

By Zeneida Amador

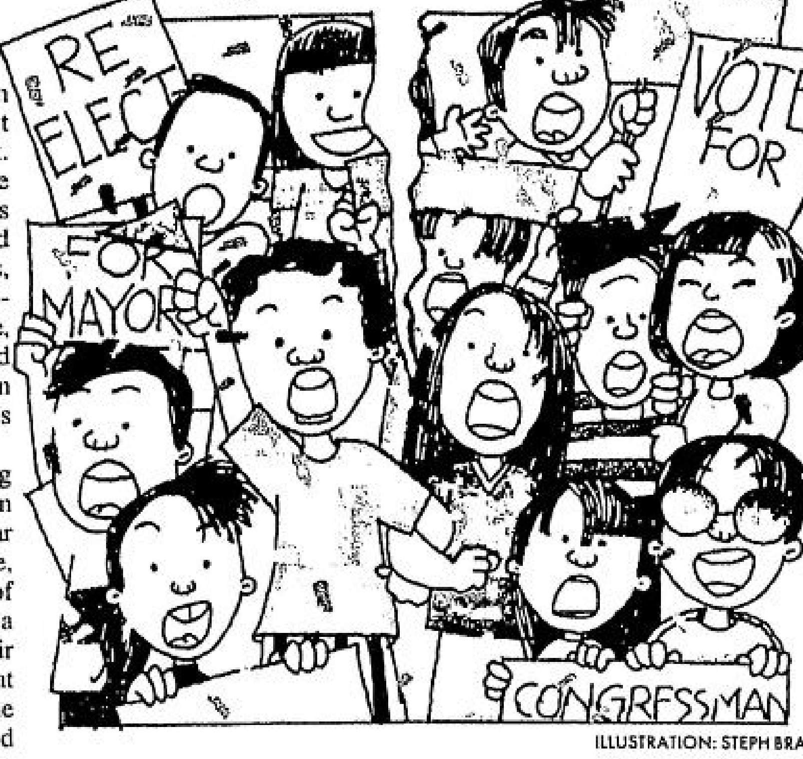

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

THERE is a common notion that artists care about nothing else but their art. Worse, that they know nothing else but their art. So, nobody ever asks our opinion about politics, and sometimes on television talk shows, we chafe and cringe when every two-bit know-it-all (who, most of the time, doesn't) holds forth on any and every angle of the political situation with matching outlandish accents to boot.

But all artists from the beginning of time have always functioned in their particular milieu, their particular environment and are, if nothing else, sensitive and perceptive members of that environment. They have such a feel of their particular culture and their history so much so, for example, that if you want to learn the tempo, the temper, and the economic, social and political feel of Victorian times, you read Charles Dickens and your grasp of the times will be better than if you read 10 history books. Shaw and Ibsen, for example, wrote because they had social ideas and wanted to change their societies.

No vindication

It is generally acknowledged that artists perceive with great depth the tenor of their times and are always ahead in dreaming of better worlds. Besides, their grasp of the human heart and mind is keen and sharp, else how could they function as artists?

At any rate, that rather long-winded prologue should be enough justification for this commentary on politics, a subject where most artists and even angels, they say, fear to tread.

To begin, I do not believe that the last elections were a vindication of anyone. Were they in support of any platform or issue? No. Were they in sympathy for this or that candidate? No. People turned out heavily to vote and they voted along class lines. The poor, the disenfranchised, the "outs" and the "have-nots" were making a statement. "We've been hungry and angry for so many years. We don't care who stole what. The end result is that we still have nothing. We realize we have a voice and a vote. We're going to use them. We have nothing to lose so we're going to rock the boat and everybody hang on because it's going to be a bumpy ride."

This country, for better or for worse, will never be the same again. Lines of distinction have been drawn but we have to remember that the drawing of lines does not mean dividing. It simply means defining. But we must also remember that the defining lines are not etched in stone. They move with the economic times and for this country to recover and right itself, the lines have to move so that the middle classes grow larger and larger. We have to enlarge the middle class.

So, who's going to do this? Well, the government partially, and the private sector. That's you and me and the rich kids on the block. The country needs more employment opportunities, the development and encouragement of small and medium enterprises, more jobs, more productivity, less idle hands. Schools can shape the curricula to develop entrepreneurship.

Behave

In short, give people something to lose if they don't behave, if they don't reject the corrupt, the thieves, the plunderers, the criminals. If people have nothing to lose, what do they care? But if they have something to lose, just watch them chase away the worms and termites in our society faster than you can say, "Go get 'em." Give them the food they will be afraid will be lost from their tables, the tuition money for their children, the savings accounts they can dip into for those days of rain.

When we lessen people who have nothing to lose and add to those who have something to lose, the defining lines will thin out and we shall be the homogenous country we all pray for. When we ask ourselves why Filipinos overseas work hard, are disciplined, follow the rules and think right, the answer is very, very simple. They have joined the middle classes who have something to lose and so they watch out carefully for what they do have.

In the meantime, does anybody have to be fearful that lines are drawn and defined? Certainly not. All of us should only try, each in his own way, to enlarge and expand the lines that define the middle class. It means a change of mindset, of attitude. Now who says this piece isn't about lifestyle?

20 taon
Kay Sarap Ng Ngiting McDo.

MADRIGAL Singers

Whole notes, love notes . . .

(From page G1)

Pakiusap for what? Save Mehan Garden and other green spaces in Manila, please, Mayor Atienza.

Enrolment blues

SOME parents of Ateneo grade schoolers are complaining about the exclusive school's "long and tedious" enrolment system.

Parents reportedly have to go through several different windows along a narrow corridor during enrolment. Window 1 is where they verify the student's name, W2 is where they get the list of fees, W3 is where they pay the fees, W4 is where they get the list of books, W5 is where they go for PE uniforms checklist and fees. Then they go to another building for W6 where they pay for the books and another window where they pay for the PE uniforms. Finally, they go to another building where they can claim the books.

GILDA Cordero Fernando

GAMALIEL Viray

"The lines during enrolment would snake around buildings," the parents said.

The worse is far from over once an Ateneo student is enrolled. His section assignment will be available only after a month. Trouble is, parents cannot get a simple information like that through the phone. "The registrar's staff will tell you the list is posted outside their office and they do not have a duplicate of this list anywhere in their office," said the parents.

This means parents will have to use precious executive time to go through bad traffic in Katipunan to personally look through the list that is posted outside the registrar's office. If parents think they can just check out this information on the first day of classes, they should think again. The big crowds that mob the bulletin boards are no joke.

"Aren't annual increases in tuition fees supposed to improve systems and render better services to the academic community?" the parents are asking.

Enough to turn you green with envy

ON THE OTHER hand, parents say there are only two steps during enrolment at La Salle Greenhills grade school: one, to get the list of fees and the other, to pay. As in service-oriented agencies, you are issued numbers and there are five counters where payments are collected. Parents are reportedly usually done in 10 minutes.

No free art lessons, not even for 'mon' Cherie

ACTRESS **Cherie Gil** may face an estafa suit for not paying for the art tutorial services she got from young artist **Victor Michael Bella**. The lawyers of Bella, whose studio conducts arts and crafts workshops, delivered last May 8 the claim to the actress' residence in Ortigas, Pasig City. But the actress, who is Cherie Gil E. Rogoff in real life, has not settled the bill.

Cherie and her mom reportedly enrolled in the two-day tutorial program of the studio last March 22. She then issued a check for P5,100. Bella deposited the check in his account, but after the clearing period, was informed that the actress had ordered a stop payment. She didn't respond to repeated calls from Bella concerning the payment.

Bella said he is pushing through with the claim because he has had bad experiences with show-biz personalities. Previously, an international beauty queen-turned-actress sat in his workshops, but refused to register and pay.

CHERIE Gil

We got texts

SINCE we asked readers to text us their suggestions and comments, we have received some really serious text messages.

About 80 percent of the messages we get concern 2bU!—who and what they want to read about in the future, how 2bU! inspires them, how the writers are like everyday people and not kids of rich parents. Sample: "sumtyms i wish u pipol r my 'kada. u EXplore, intervw gud luking pipol, wat more cud i ask 4? u make my dy ryt! kip up d gud wrk!"

The other text messages are seeking information: where to contact **Secretary Raul Roco**, how to call Splash Island, where to buy a book about cross-dressing, how to have their weddings featured, how to be a contributor, etc.

And just when I thought as editor I have tried to present as many lifestyles as possible, some of our textmates do not like it whenever we feature women they perceive as socialites as we did on Mother's Day. "Feature ordinary Juan de la Cruzes, not socialites," texted one. Or: "Publish some really inspiring people" and "It's always about the world of the elite... write about people with brains." Yet others are asking for more stories on celebrities.

We are sorry that we cannot respond to all text messages, but we'd love to keep hearing from our readers. So text us at (0919) 661-2337.

FREE SPEECH

Namfrel's side

I READ "Bad to worse" in the Lifestyle section (PDI, 05/20/01). The article made it sound like Namfrel deliberately did not exert effort to recruit volunteers to cover all the precincts. I would like to point out that all Namfrel chapters (my chapter included) tried as early as March to recruit volunteers. But we had a very difficult time because we had to compete with the candidates who were paying their watchers P500 to P1,000 each. Apparently, many people preferred money than civic duty. Aside from this, I noted a general reluctance by the middle class to participate in making sure that the elections are fair, orderly and peaceful. Local companies also turned down our request for donations for food and transportation. Whether they were busy trying to make ends meet, or scared of the possible election violence, or just apathetic, I cannot really say.

But my faith in the civic spirit of the Pinoys was buoyed by the active participation of the PPCRV (Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting) and of the Mandaluyong City Christian churches. If it wasn't for their selfless dedication, we would have not been able to collect the election returns, encode them and report the figures.

The food poisoning incident at the La Salle Tabulation Center was unfortunate. Hopefully it will not happen again. But since Namfrel relies on donations, I would think such incidents are difficult to avoid.

(Sgd.) GERRY LIM
Operation Quick Count chair
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- Excellent communication skills, a good leader and a team player
- Must be hardworking, with keen attention to details and can work under pressure
- Graduate of B. S. Accounting from reputable schools, preferably CPA

BUSINESS ANALYST (Code: BAS)

- At least 18 months experience in detailed configuration, unit and integration testing, and implementation of SAP R/3 in any of the following modules: Logistics (Purchasing and Materials Management), Sales and Distribution
- With experience in handling business processes design for ERP solution package, specifically SAP R/3
- Preferably with exposure in business operations in sales or logistics
- Knowledge in business workflow configuration would be an added advantage
- Experience in the development of user training materials, configuration workbook and end-user documentation
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, computer science or any business related course

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE – CALL CENTER (Code: CSR-CALL CENTER)

- Responsible for handling inquiries, complaints, and gives information on products and services
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- Possesses a pleasant disposition and excellent judgmental skills
- Must be highly articulate in English, both oral and written communications
- Must be able to speak and understand the **Visayan dialect** (Cebuano, Ilonggo, Waray, etc)
- Willing to work on shifting schedule and extended working hours
- Graduate of any 4-year course preferably business, communications, and other related courses

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE – GNET (Code: CSR-GNET)

- Responsible for handling inquiries, requests and problems which include PC troubleshooting and maintenance, internet configurations, and other internet related concerns of the customers
- Experience in hands-on troubleshooting and internet configuration is necessary
- Has strong customer focus, high tolerance for stress initiative to learn, with keen attention to details, enthusiasm and patience in handling the concerns of the customers
- Possesses a pleasant disposition and excellent judgmental skills
- Must be highly articulate in English, both oral and written communications
- Willing to work on shifting schedule and extended working hours
- Graduate of Computer Science/ Engineering and other allied courses

FINANCE SUPERVISOR - INVENTORY (Code: FIS)

- With 3 – 5 years experience in audit or inventory accounting; 2 years of which in a supervisory capacity
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- Must be hardworking, with keen attention to details and can work under pressure
- Graduate of B. S. Accounting from reputable schools, preferably CPA

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- Good mathematical knowledge and analytical ability to manipulate and interpret statistics/information
- Ability for data research, with logical thought process and diagnostic / methodical actions
- Excellent oral communications and business/ technical writing
- Mature, self-motivated, flexible, trustworthy, a team player
- Can work under pressure and varying work schedule
- Good and pleasant interpersonal skills
- Graduate of Electronics and Communications Engineering, Computer Science or a bachelor degree of similar discipline is preferred

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- Experience in handling Mediation Device
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- Preferably with experience in application development and in the telecoms industry
- Graduate of Computer Science or any related courses

INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST (Code: IS)

- Experience in applications development required
- Knowledge and experience in UNIX, C Language and SQL
- With programming knowledge in C Language, Powerbuilder or Visual Basic
- Knowledgeable in RDBMS (Oracle, Sybase or SQL server)
- At least 2 years work experience in an IT environment
- College graduate of Computer Science or any related course

PRODUCT MANAGER (Code: PM)

- At least 2 years experience in Product Management, preferably gained from the IT or telecommunications industries
- Able to develop and implement marketing plans/ activities
- With exposure in product development and / or management, market research and analysis, and system / process improvement
- Knowledgeable in managing and developing projects
- Knowledge in internet networking and applications is an advantage
- Proficient in MS office applications
- Must be flexible and willing to extend working hours
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- Must know how to drive

PURCHASING ENGINEER/ SUPERVISOR (Code: ENG/ SUP)

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- College graduate of Engineering or Business course

PLANNING ASSOCIATE (Code: PLN)

- Preferably with at least 1 year experience in Planning and Methods analysis
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- Good command in written and oral communications
- Knowledge in basic IE tools like EOQ, ROL and MRP but not necessary
- Computer Literate
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Accounting or any management course

ACCOUNT ANALYST (Code: AA)

- At least 2 years experience in credit and customer service oriented work
- Expertise in problem analysis and resolution
- Account management background preferred
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Graduate of any 4-year business course

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Basic Function: The Director is responsible for leading the implementation of administrative systems. The Director reports to the Vice-President for Loyola Schools and supervises a staff of nine. A detailed position description can be viewed at **www.ateneo.edu/jobs/MISD.htm**.

To apply, submit the following: (a) **Application Letter** indicating how your educational background and experience qualify you for the position, (b) a detailed **Resumé**, (c) **Copy of Transcript of Records and IT related certificates**, (d) **Three Professional References** (name, position, mailing address, telephone and e-mail).

This position is open until filled. Application materials received by 5:00 p.m., June 8, 2001, will receive first consideration. Send application materials to: **Personnel Director, Ateneo de Manila University, 1108 Loyola Heights, Quezon City, ATTN: The MIS Director Search Committee** or e-mail to greyes@admu.edu.ph or fax to 426-1245.

For more information, please call 426-6001 local 5170.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE

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www.jobmarketonline.com

MANAGERIAL

Technology hasn't changed everything.

Like the value of putting people first. Working as a team. Doing your best.

We don't take the basics for granted. We build on them to thrive in today's world.

Do you value the same things? Why don't you join us?

We are **OneHundred** Services, Inc. We create, develop, and operate Internet businesses. We're looking for:

» PRODUCT MANAGERS (3)
lead product management efforts and handle the entire product cycle.

REQUIREMENTS:
- At least 2 years experience handling the marketing of Internet-related products
- Understanding and appreciation of Web technology and Web-based applications preferred
- Relevant experience in any of the following:
  - Product Manager 1 - marketing of Internet prepaid cards, presently has a network of distributors and dealers
  - Product Manager 2 - marketing of Internet connectivity: Web hosting, DNS hosting, dedicated dial up, dial up, server co-location, leased lines
  - Product Manager 3 - business development, joining/organizing trade shows, catalogue selling/publishing

» DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS (2)
manage and tune databases and the applications accessing those databases.

REQUIREMENTS:
- BS Computer Science (or any allied course) degree holder from a reputable school
- Expert knowledge in SQL programming
- Relevant experience in database management, administration, and security, preferably Oracle RDBMS

» KNOWLEDGE MANAGER (1)
develops and sustains the company's vision and strategy for knowledge management.

REQUIREMENTS:
- At least 3 years direct experience in MIS administration in a multi-platform environment
- Expert knowledge in:
  - relational database, client/server systems, and Internet-based technology
  - Web-based collaboration and messaging systems
  - collaboration software

» SENIOR NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER (1)
supports network operations and primarily handles working equipment.

REQUIREMENTS:
- ECE (or any allied course) degree holder from a reputable school
- At least 2 years experience in LAN and Internet communications (WAN)
- Expert knowledge in EIGRP and BGP4
- IC/RC and AC/RC certification a definite advantage

* Applicants should display project management expertise and strong leadership in a team environment.

For more information, visit the **OneHundred** Services Inc. Web site at **http://careers.100.ph**.
If you're interested, you can email your résumé to **careers@100.ph**

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cyberspace inc
http://www.cyberspace.com.ph

INTERNET SALES SPECIALISTS

- Male or Female; 20 to 28 years old; college graduate; preferably with Management, Computer Science or Marketing Degree
- Experience in marketing Internet-based services (connectivity, web design/development, e-commerce applications) is a plus
- Marketing or sales experience for corporate clients needed; must be able to work with minimal supervision; with good oral and written communication skills.

For those sending their resumés via email, please indicate the position you are applying for in the "Subject" area.

Please send or bring your resumé to:

Cyberspace, Inc.
P/H Padilla Building Emerald Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Fax 637-2776 Or e-mail us at info@csi.com.ph

ENCLOSURE SYSTEMS SPECIALISTS, INC.
OFFERS YOU A CHALLENGE!!!

A dynamic company is in need of **ACCOUNT MANAGERS** to sell our rittal industrial enclosures, Phoenix contact, Peppers Cable Glands and other product brands to industrial and commercial users. The candidates will be, as a minimum:

- Preferably an Engineering graduate
- Between 26 to 34 years of age
- Male or female
- Have a dynamic personality
- Very fluent in English both written and oral
- Computer literate
- Preferably single
- Willing to travel
- Have his/her own car
- Excellent benefits and allowances
- Salary plus commission
- A proven sales track record
- Closely allied with the telecom/IT market

Those who do not meet the above qualifications need not apply.

This is an excellent opportunity for the right persons. Send your resumé with photo thru fax no. 818-5006 or mail to Room 104 Narra Building, 2276 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City or email: gardex@mozcom.com

---

FIRST RATE SALON,
seeks dynamic hardworking

RECEPTION MANAGER

High-level people skills required.
Call 818-6666 NOW!
Monday to Saturday

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

• Cafeteria Manager/ Supervisor

Please send your application with contact numbers indicated, present address and a recent 2x2 photo through mail or personal delivery to:

ALBERGUS
Personnel Department
c/o Ms. May Palma
From Mondays to Saturdays — 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
16-A Capitol Hills Road, Old Balara, Diliman
Quezon City

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

CHATEAU 1771

1771 M. Adriatico Street, Malate, Manila

ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGERS

- Male/Female; college graduate, preferably of HRM course with at least 1 year experience as a Restaurant Assistant Manager or 3 years experience as a Senior Supervisor in a casual fine-dining restaurant or 5 years managerial experience in a related industry; possesses good customer relations and people skills; preferably with knowledge or experience in marketing and sales; willing to undergo extensive training.

ASSISTANT HEAD COOKS

- Male/Female; college graduate or its equivalent in work experience; has at least 3 years experience in a supervisory capacity in a casual fine-dining restaurant; has experience or training in people handling skills and is capable of leading and team building; Must also have knowledge on recipe quantification and costing; is committed to high standards of operation.

TRAINEES FOR PROFESSIONAL RESTAURANT STAFF

- Male/Female, college graduate or its equivalent in work experience; has good communication skills; experience in handling people is an advantage.

Qualified applicants may send their resumé, 2x2 ID picture, transcript of records, certificate/s of employment and clearance from previous employer to the address indicated above.

** Applications will be entertained until June 15, 2001*
** For assignment in Ortigas, Malate or at our future Makati outlet.*

Stores Specialists, Inc.

URGENTLY NEEDS

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS (FA-001)

- Male or female, between 21 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Accounting or BS Industrial Engineering, must be computer literate (fresh graduates are welcome)
- Proficient in oral and written communication with analytical ability
- Preferably with related work experience
- Willing to work beyond regular office hours

MERCHANDISE PLANNING & CONTROL ANALYSTS (MPC-001)

- Male or female, between 24 to 30 years old
- Graduate of Accounting, Business Management or Information Technology, must be computer literate
- Proficient in oral and written communication with analytical ability
- Preferably with related work experience
- Willing to work beyond regular office hours

SALES INVENTORY & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ANALYSTS (SIIM-001)

- Male or female, between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of Accounting or Industrial Engineering (fresh graduates are welcome)
- With working knowledge on computer operations With analytical ability
- Willing to render overtime work

AD & PROMO COORDINATORS (APC-001)

- Female, between 22 to 27 years old
- Gradate of any four-year course;
- With experience in advertising, marketing, promos or related fields
- Computer literate
- Willing to work overtime

PHARMACIST (P-001)

- Graduate of B S Pharmacy, licensed
- Computer literate
- With training conducted by the Pharmaceutical/Cosmetics Industries: Pharmaceuticals Association, Bureau of Food and Drugs

DISPLAY ARTISTS (DA-001)

- Female, not over 30 years old
- Fine Arts/Commercial Arts graduate or any related course
- With creative skills in drawing, lettering, silk screening, flower arranging, etc.

SECRETARY (S-001)

- Female, between 21 to 30 years old, single
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- Must be computer literate
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-001)

- Male or female between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS (BC-001)

- Female, between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

MAKE-UP ARTISTS (MA-001)

- Male or female, gay, between 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

COMPANY DRIVERS (CD-001)

- Male, not over 35 years old
- With at least two (2) years Professional Driver's License
- Knowledge in trouble shooting/auto-mechanics an advantage

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Personnel Department
4th Floor, Midland Buendia Building
403 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Please indicate position codes.

A fast growing Japanese company engaged in freight forwarding, warehousing, trucking, local and international moving, and heavy lift operations is in need of additional manpower:

SEA-EXPORT SUPERVISOR

- College graduate, preferably Customs Administration
- With minimum experience of three (3) years in similar position
- People-oriented, can work independently
- Not more than 35 years old
- Computer literate

SEA-IMPORT SUPERVISOR

- College graduate, preferably Customs Administration
- With minimum experience of three (3) years in similar position
- Not more than 35 years old
- Computer literate

Interested applicants may apply personally or send resumé with 2x2 picture and credentials (NBI Clearance, SSS ID, previous work certification/clearance) at the following address:

A.T.E. FREIGHT PHILS., INC.
Corporate Affairs Department
Roligon Compound, 505 Quirino Avenue
Tambo, Parañaque City
Tel. Nos. 832-1005; 833-9703; 510-9215/20

A MULTINATIONAL HOLDING COMPANY IS CURRENTLY SEEKING AGGRESSIVE MARKETING PEOPLE TO FILL POSITIONS AS:

CUSTOMER RELATIONS OFFICER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- ☑ Male or female, 20 to 45 years old
- ☑ Knowledgeable in foreign exchange, stocks, treasuries or commodity trading an advantage
- ☑ College graduate with good moral character
- ☑ Good in oral and written English
- ☑ Knowledge of other language an advantage
- ☑ Team player, enthusiastic and hardworking
- ☑ Able to work in a highly dynamic environment

Kindly forward your application letter, resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

The Marketing Manager
Unit 907-B West Tower
Philippine Stock Exchange Building
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre
Pasig City 1600
or
Email: 911@edsamall.com.ph

We will only reply to qualified applicants.

MANAGERIAL

PSTC, an established technical training institute with eight (8) vocational-technical schools in Metro Manila, Calamba and Baguio is in need of an

OPERATIONS MANAGER

The candidate will manage central office support services to the training centers. These shall include the preparation and implementation of marketing, promotional and public relations programs, the upgrading of training center operating standards, the audit of financial performances and staff development. The job shall include the setting up of new training centers and their subsequent management to continually meet training standards and financial targets.

Please send your application, stating your current and expected earnings, together with your resume and latest photo to:

PSTC

PHILIPPINE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
Suite 407 Columbian Bldg.,
#160 West Ave., Quezon City, 1100 Metro Manila
Tel Nos.: 925-2818, 925-2820, 925-2827 & 925-2829
pstccentral@hotmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

REGISTERED NURSES

Male or Female, 21 to 29 years old; With at least 6 months experience preferably gained in a hospital or HMO setting; Must have a pleasing personality and computer literate.

LIAISON OFFICER

Female, 21 to 28 years old; Graduate of any Medical Course. With pleasing personality and strong communication skills. Computer literate and can relate to all levels of the organization.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

Male, 21 to 25 years of age. Single and at least 5'6" in height. Graduate of any Marketing or Medical courses. With pleasing personality and above average oral and written communication skills. Must be computer literate.

CLAIMS SUPERVISOR

Graduate of BS Accountancy. With at least 2 to 3 years experience in the same capacity preferably gained in an insurance, pre-need or HMO setting. Must possess strong leadership skills and a working knowledge on how to process claims.

Interested applicant may submit their resumé, 2x2 picture, transcript of records to:

Human Resources Department

MEDICard Philippines, Inc.
8/F Sagittarius Bldg.
H.V. Dela Costa Street
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Email: **rsalmon@medicardphils.com**
(Previous applicants need not apply)

Rx
MEDICard

THE WORLD BANK OFFICE MANILA (WBOM)

IS RECRUITING EXPERIENCED

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

1. As part of the World Bank's decentralization strategy, the World Bank office in Manila requires a highly experienced NRM specialist who would carry out major responsibilities for Natural Resource Management (NRM) and agricultural tasks covering primarily the Philippines, and to a lesser extent other East Asian countries.
2. As a member of the Bank's Rural/NRM sector team, the NRM specialist (based in the Manila Office) would provide the primary NRM expertise to lead and support RD/NRM pipeline development, new project processing, project review/supervision, and sector policy analysis, NRM dialogue and strategy work. An important component of the responsibilities outlined above includes building partnerships with various stakeholders (national and local governments, NGOs, peoples' organizations, donors), and working in a multidisciplinary team and other sector units. While the Philippines is the focal country, responsibilities may also include other East Asia and the Pacific countries, consistent with country needs (subject to the competencies of the person selected).
3. **Skills and Competencies:** Fully proficient/specialist in the following areas:
    - ➢ State-of-the-art knowledge of operational, technical and project NRM and RD issues, and ability to address such issues across sectors and at the country level;
    - ➢ Preference for understanding of Bank policies and practices and their practical application in a country context (especially Philippines);
    - ➢ Leadership ability in all phases of the Project cycle and sector work;
    - ➢ Ability to ensure the quality of portfolio performance management, especially involving NRM tasks;
    - ➢ Proven ability to conceptualize, design and implement major projects, with strong NRM component.
    - ➢ Demonstrated analytical understanding of the functional and institutional relationships within the NRM sector and across a number of related sectors;
    - ➢ Ability to promote client/beneficiary participation and commitment to ensuring effective implementation and long-term sustainability of projects/programs, with strong NRM components;
    - ➢ Ability to lead a team of professionals in the execution of major tasks, especially having high NRM component, as well as being a strong team member;
    - ➢ Ability to deal sensitively in multi-cultural environments and build effective work relations with clients, NGOs, and colleagues.
4. **Educational Background and Work Experience**
    - ➢ M.A., and preferably Ph.D in relevant NRM field (e.g. forestry management, with strong community-based orientation), and undergraduate degree in relevant field (preferably agriculture/agronomy);
    - ➢ At least 10 years of proven relevant work experience, preferably with relevant cross-country experience.
5. **Terms:** Initially, the appointment is on a 2-year fixed-term basis, subject to renewal. Compensation package is attractive and competitive with Manila-based market, and offers attractive, challenging and professional growth opportunities in working for a global organization.
6. Suitably qualified candidates are requested to submit their expressions of interest with biodata, academic records, reference letters and latest photo not later than June 11, 2001 (by c.o.b.). Applicants who will be short-listed will be called upon for interview.

Send the above to:
The Administrative Officer
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5/F Building B, SM Megamall
Mandaluyong City
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: WORLD)

"People are the driving force behind success."

Indeed, it is the expertise, capabilities and experience of people that propels a company to success. At Zurich Philippines, every individual counts. And we are inviting highly motivated individuals who wants to succeed and be part of our growth.

ZURICH

Business Development Managers

- between 27 to 40 years old;
- with a core group of enterprising sales network;
- highly competitive & loves to take on a challenge;
- committed, trainable and possess a positive attitude;
- success - driven and wants to grow personally and financially;
- with entrepreneurial orientation.

Affinity Sales Head

Responsible for the acquisition and development of Affinity group business and generating the target premium income from this distribution channel.

Systems Analyst / Programmer

- Must have bachelor degree preferably in Computer Science or any Engineering field;
- Must have at least three (3) years experience in RPG/400 COBOL/ 400 under AS400 environment;
- Must have practical experience in systems analysis and design and relational database design;
- Exposure in web development or client server development and working knowledge of life and non-life insurance business operations is a plus.

Sales Trainor

Responsible for the conceptualization, implementation and enhancement of the company's sales training programs for the sales force.

Please fax us your resume at 750-0384 or send it through e-mail at zuriphil@zurich.com.
You may also mail your resume to:

Personnel Department
Zurich Philippines
24/F Citibank Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

www.zurich.com.ph
Zurich Philippines is a member of the Zurich Financial Services Group of Switzerland

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Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

LIBRARY RESEARCH ASSISTANT

The Position:

- ♦ Responsible for performing a variety of analytical, outreach and administrative duties in the Library's user services area;
- ♦ Provides reference and research services by performing literature searches using printed materials, CD-ROMs, online databases and Internet search tools;
- ♦ Prepares reading lists and bibliographies,
- ♦ Advises users on materials appropriate to their requests, maintains statistics on usage and maintains reference computer workstations and peripherals;
- ♦ Trains and provides orientation to users and develops print and electronic user aids,
- ♦ Assists in the development of the Library collection,
- ♦ Assists in staffing the Learning Resources Center and helping users select and view videos and use e-learning packages.

The Requirements:

- ♦ College degree in Library/Information Science. Masters degree preferred;
- ♦ Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work well in teams;
- ♦ Four years relevant library experience;
- ♦ Computer proficiency; experience with electronic information services.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-09CS by 8 June 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Word format. **Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.**

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ANALYST

The Position:

- ♦ Conducts independent analysis and provides technical support in ensuring the implementation and monitoring of ADB's policies, guidelines and mandates on social development;
- ♦ Supports ADB's focal point on involuntary resettlement and keeps abreast of knowledge and information on global resettlement and social development issues;
- ♦ Undertakes research on varied social concerns and processes;
- ♦ Provides technical information to support the preparation of special reports and studies;
- ♦ Ensures effective database management;
- ♦ Facilitates the organization and implementation of conferences and workshops by formulating budget, activity plans and work programs.

The Requirements:

- ♦ At least a master's degree in Sociology or Anthropology;
- ♦ At least seven years' relevant experience in resettlement plans;
- ♦ Familiarity with social development policies, including involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, gender policy, cooperation with NGOs, etc;
- ♦ Thorough knowledge and understanding of current and alternative approaches and methodologies in the incorporation of social dimensions into projects and programs;
- ♦ Good understanding of statistics; Strong analytical and conceptual skills;
- ♦ Basic knowledge of MS Office applications and familiarity with database management.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-10CS by 8 June 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Word format. **Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.**

MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

FriendlyCare Foundation, Inc.

WE ARE A DYNAMIC, TRAILBLAZING FAMILY PLANNING ORGANIZATION WITH A MISSION TO PROVIDE QUALITY, HUMANE, CARING AND COMPASSIONATE FAMILY PLANNING AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES.

WE ARE IN NEED OF A

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER [COO]

who can strategically lead the organization towards the achievement of its business and social development objectives.

We need a strong and dynamic leader committed to quality service, and with a wide range of experience in managing the operation of a national health service provider organization.

The candidate we are looking for should have competencies in corporate and business planning, marketing, financial management and health and medical services administration.

An experience with an NGO or a funding agency in the social development sectors is an advantage.

An attractive compensation package awaits the successful candidate.

Please respond with your comprehensive curriculum vitaé and recent photo to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
FriendlyCare Foundation Incorporated
710 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Fax No. 722-2995
Email: hrd@friendlycare.com.ph

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

WEB WRITER

FOR PROJECT ON REDUCING VEHICLE EMISSIONS

The Asian Development Bank is undertaking a Regional Technical Assistance Project to help its Developing Member Countries promote sustainable growth and people's health and well-being by controlling and reducing vehicle emissions. The project is looking to recruit a Web Writer to conceptualize, manage and maintain the project's website.

The Web Writer should have proven experience in editing and writing documents for the website and basic understanding of technical issues related to the reduction of vehicle emissions. The selected individual will be responsible for:

Web Writing

- edit and write articles for web site publication;
- help identify relevant information on vehicle emissions reduction policies and actions in coordination with ADB staff and consultants working on the project;
- collate information from external sources for web presentation; and

Input Design & Maintenance of Website

- contribute to the design and maintenance of the website.

The position will be for a 9-month period under a contract funded by the Asian Development Bank.
Applicants should send biodata and other supporting information by 10 June 2001 to Glynda Bathan, Rm. 5145, Transport & Communications Division (East), Asian Development Bank, P.O. Box 789, 0980 Manila or email gbathan@adb.org, tel. no.: 632-5151.

PARSONS

A US-based Engineering Design and Consultancy Firm with Global Operations is in immediate need of:

SCHEDULERS / PLANNERS

BA / BS Civil Engineering graduate or related discipline, with a minimum of 5 years experience in scheduling for design/construction projects. Proficiency in Primavera (P3) & progress reporting systems is required.

Interested parties should submit their resumé to:
THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
375 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Fax: 897-9253

Visit us at our website
www.jobmarketonline.com

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

SHIPPING ASSISTANT

The Position:

- Compiles documents required by moving and shipping companies relating to the inbound/outbound sea and air shipments of official ADB shipments and staff personal shipments;
- Performs clerical support in the general shipping operations through the processing of shipment-related invoices and preparation of all requests to various government agencies;
- Prepares various routing shipping correspondences to local and international moving companies, brokers and other concerned parties on status of payments and clarifications/questions on invoices.

The Requirements:

- College degree in Commerce preferably major in Accounting, Business Administration or equivalent field;
- At least two years' related work experience;
- Basic knowledge and understanding of policies, guidelines, procedures and regulations in general shipping operations; exposure in the shipping and moving industry would be an advantage;
- Basic knowledge and understanding of shipping terminology and procedures;
- Computer proficiency.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-08CS by 8 June 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Word format.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Our company is into distribution of office systems. We have branches nationwide and off-site operations in Asia and the US. Presently, we are in search of highly-qualified people to fill the position of:

AVP - BRANCHES

(Position Code : PDI-AVPB)

- To be assigned in Visayas or Mindanao
- At least 5 years proven record in sales, preferably with product management exposure
- With excellent administrative ability to oversee day-to-day branch operations
- Knowledge in identification of niche markets, preparation of sales budget and quota is required
- Not more than 35 years old

Qualified applicants are requested to write in confidence, with brief career details to:

(POSITION CODE)
P.O. Box No. 3506, Makati City

Your connection to better people, better jobs.

JOBMarket ONLINE

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in sync
INSTITUTIONAL SYNERGY, INC

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

Our client, the largest adhesive tape manufacturing company in Japan, is establishing a subsidiary in **Sto. Tomas, Batangas**. They are currently in need of a well-qualified

ASSISTANT MANAGER for ACCOUNTING & PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

(Code: AP-05/27)

THE REQUIREMENTS:

The ideal candidate must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), with at least five to seven years' experience in accounting, finance and taxation. He or she must have worked for a PEZA-registered company and must have had some exposure in personnel and administration work.

The company offers a competitive compensation and benefits package. Qualified applicants are invited to send their resumés with application letters, including contact numbers, current and expected pay, and a recent photograph (indicate code on the envelope AP-05/27) to:

Institutional Synergy, Inc.
Unit 608, 6/F Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Or e-mail to: execsearch@insync.com.ph

A WORLD-CLASS HOSPITAL in the league of ISO certified medical institutions by american standards soon to open in Alabang immediately requires very competent personnel.

RECRUITMENT MANAGER

has extensive experience in recruitment and preparation of recruitment kit and knowledge in ISO certification processing

HR ASSOCIATES

has 3 years experience in Employee Relations, Compensation and Benefits, Recruitment, Payroll and familiar with Labor Laws

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER

male who has at least 5 years experience in the operation and maintenance of various medical equipments for Radiology, Imaging and Film processing, can interpret drawing and schematic designs and willing to work in shifting schedules

ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN

graduate of related Technical/Engineering course, with 3 to 7 years experience in the operation and maintenance of HVAC Systems, Building Management System, Close Circuit Television (CCTV), Cable Television, PLC Controllers, Gases Supply and Storage System in a hospital, hotel or electronics company, can interpret drawings and schematic designs and can work in shifting schedules

MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN

graduate of related Technical/Engineering course, with 3 to 7 years experience in the operation and maintenance of HVAC Systems in a hospital, hotel or electronics company and chemical plant, can interpret drawings and schematic designs and can work in shifting schedules

GRAPHIC ARTIST

with extensive experience as Graphic Artist/ Visualizer

If you want to be a part of a team in this prestigious organization and if you possess the qualifications foregoing, apply personally or call our authorized employment processing center:

WORKPLACE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
Unit 607, Dasma Corporate Center
321 Dasmariñas Street,
Binondo, Manila
Tel. Nos. 244-6667 to 69
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Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc.
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Fax: 6339111; Email Address: sol.himan@cigi.com.ph

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E-mail: hrd@leather-collection.com
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2/F The Praxedes Place, #5 East Capitol Drive cor. Sta. Rosa, Bgy. Capitolyo, Pasig City, Tel. Nos. 637-0053/55, look for Ms. Bing or Ms. Lora.

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* Qualified Applicants should apply personally with their
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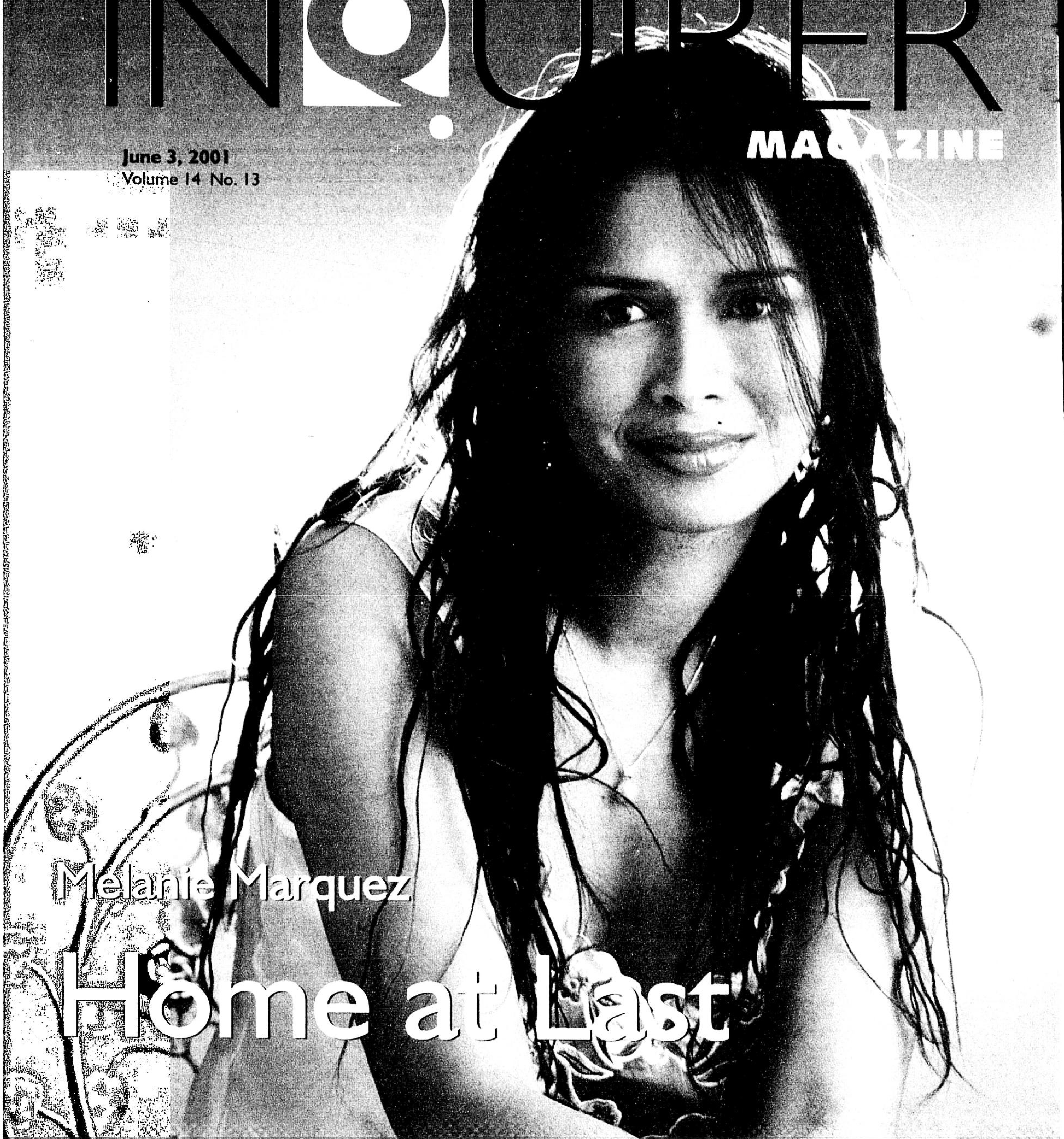
SUNDAY
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
MAGAZINE

June 3, 2001
Volume 14 No. 13



Melanie Marquez

Home at Last

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LIFE-LONG PASSION

I am a reader of INQUIRER and a comic book fanatic. The March 25, 2001 issue amazed me when I saw that a fellow Josephian, Leinil Francis Yu, has made it and become one of the greats in the comics biz. Just like him I dream of becoming a comic book artist. I don't have a fine arts degree because my parents discouraged me and said I wouldn't survive as an artist. So instead, I took computer science because we are now embracing the age of communication and technology. Now, four years and a half later, I still can't find the joy I am looking for. Now I realize that money won't bring this joy to me, but making a kid happy every time he looks at the pages of a comic book I made would be an achievement. I have so many regrets in my life, but I won't let them overcome me. Even though I don't have training, my life-long passion will help. Please help me contact Mr. Leinil Francis Yu. You can reach me at orion2@edsamail.com.ph. Or you can send me mail, my address is 12 Agujo St., Casimiro Village, Las Piñas City. I am hoping for your response.

ADRIAN H. APOSTOL
orion2@edsamail.com.ph

(We'll forward your letter to Mr. Yu. Keep chasing those dreams!)

WE WANT THEM!

Can you please feature two of the most admired women on your list, Sen. Loren Legarda and Clarissa Ocampo? These two women made a great impact on people's lives during the impeachment trial. They're good role models for all women of all ages. More power to PDI.

MALOU CAMIDO
Tarlac, Tarlac
malou_cute@hotmail.com

Hi. Just want to say thanks for featuring my favorite senatoriable congressman Joker Arroyo in SIM. Here's hoping to see Chief Justice Hilario Davide in SIM soon. More power.

MA. THERESA ROSARIO
Quezon City
mtrosario@yahoo.com

Kindly feature the Spice Boys (Zubiri, Barbers, Defensor, Andaya, Braganza, Reyes, etc.) and the Old Spice (Joker Arroyo, Belmonte, who else?) together. *Mami-miss natin sila sa* next Congress, *nagkahiwa-hiwalay na sila ng landas.* Thanks and God Bless.

KRISTINA PEDRO
San Pedro, Laguna
krees_teena@go.com

Kindly feature my *numero unong senador, Mareng* Winnie Monsod. Thanks and more power to SIM.

LORY ANNE SOMENA
loryanne@lovemail.com

FORGIVING HEART

To Ms Lydia de Vega: I really admire you for your strength and toughness! (SIM, 15 April 2001) Despite all the chaos you've experienced, you still stay as cool as can be. I am not a mother like you but I know that having a son die because of some accident can be a terrible feeling. I am really amazed by your forgiving heart. God Bless.

ELAINE CUYUGAN
Valenzuela City

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The Cover Image After a life that's been anything but a pageant, Melanie Marquez believes she has found the runway to happiness
Photographed by Mandy Navasero

Sunday Inquirer Magazine June 3, 2001
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Editor in Chief Alya B. Honasan
Managing Editor Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Associate Editor Ruel S. De Vera
Staff Writer Eric S. Caruncho
Graphics Designer Chuchie Quevedo-See
Editorial Assistant Sharon M. Felipe
Advertising & Sales Manager Kenny Nuyda

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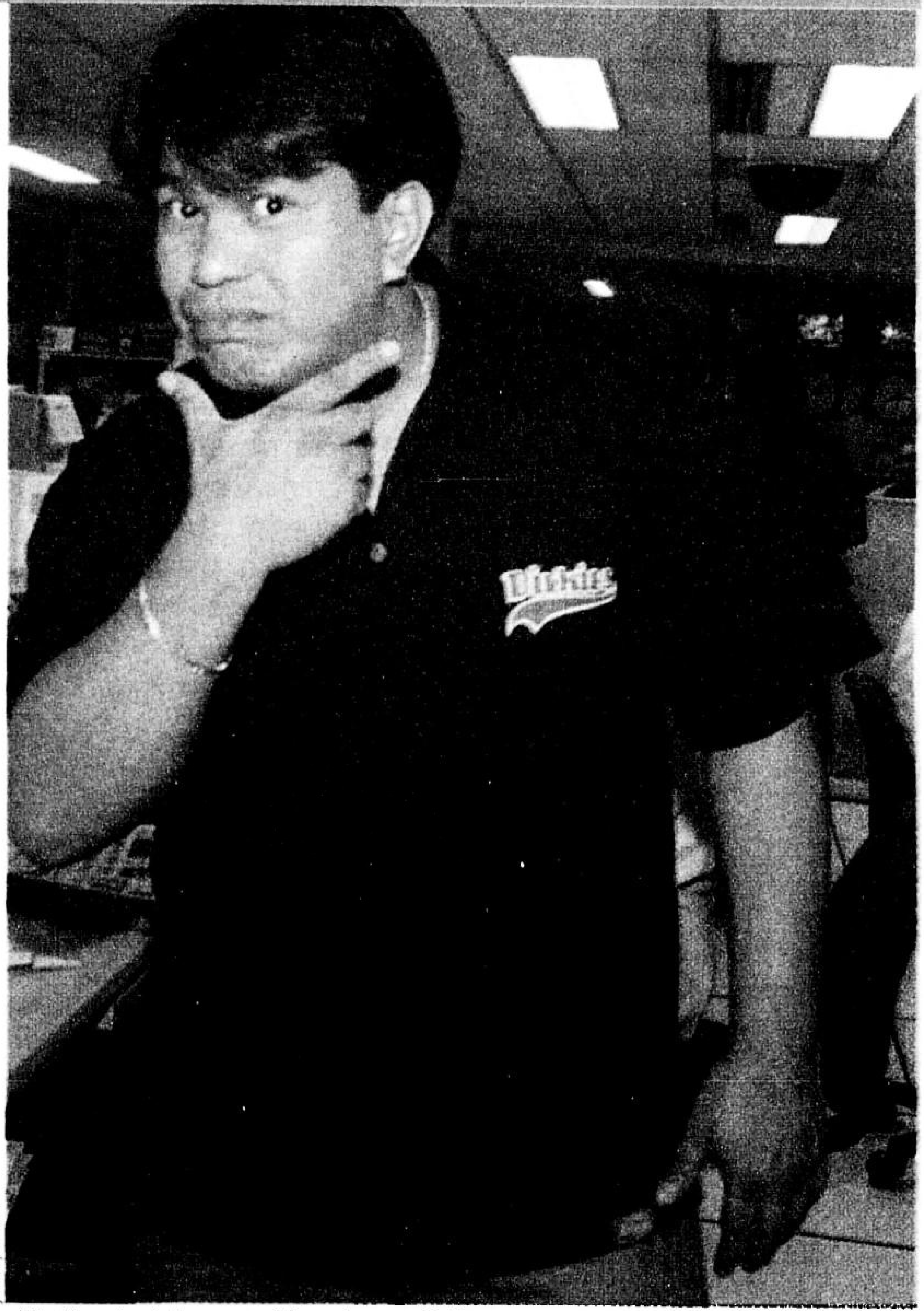
Seen on TV
by Tisha Alvarez

Funny newsman Marc Logan has gained a following with his riotous reportage, but he's serious about his craft

Rhyme and Reason



Johnny Villena

Would you trust this reporter? Logan between field assignments

OFF CAMERA, ABS-CBN'S MARC LOGAN IS THE ANTITHESIS OF HIS TV ALTER EGO. THE 32-YEAR-OLD BROADCAST JOURNALIST, WHOSE VOICE IS A LOT DEEPER THAN YOU'D EXPECT, IS IN REALITY A SINGLE PARENT WITH A PENSIVE DEMEANOR AND A JOURNALIST WHO TAKES HIS CRAFT VERY SERIOUSLY. AND NO, HE DOES NOT REALLY SPEAK IN VERSE.

The main anchor of "Pinoy Exposed," the executive producer of "*Balita Atbp.*," and one of the pioneers of the (really) early morning show "*Alas Singko y Media*," Logan is best known for "*Mga Kwento ni* Marc Logan," his segment on "TV Patrol." Dealing with human interest stories, he delivers each feature with his own brand of reporting—injecting humor and verse into his segment, as if he were reciting some witty nursery rhyme about the bizarre, the unbelievable, or the just plain funny. All this is done in a high-pitched, sing-song voice all his own. He says that his gift of rhyme came from his childhood, when he used to represent his pre-school in oratorical contests.

"Logan" is not a fabricated TV name for this seemingly pure Filipino reporter; it is actually his half-American mother's maiden name. Born in Quezon City, Marc attended high school in Baguio and worked while taking Journalism at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, all because he did not want to be financially supported by his parents. He worked as an errand boy, and in his second year of college, started working for a newspaper, yet never allowing his grades to go below scholarship level.

After seven years in print journalism, Marc got bored with beat coverage and decided to try his hand at broadcasting. "Experiment *lang*," he says. For about seven years, he didn't think that he would be able to do voice-overs. "I flunked four times," he confesses. "The first time I did, *ayaw ni* Noli (de Castro). Soft *daw 'yung dating. Sabi niya, konting* hyper. I put a high note, *sobrang na*-high note, *lampas na sa* do-re-mi!"

Marc's trademark voice was first heard on "TV Patrol" and "*Alas Singko y Media*," with the former featuring local human interest stories, and the latter dealing with foreign ones. His segments generated interest among viewers—"They call if I don't have a segment"—which in turn generated interest among the advertising and sales people at the station. With avid followers of his reports, it seemed only logical for Logan to come up with his own show. This gave birth to "Pinoy Exposed," the local version of "Guinness Book of World Records."

"*Mga Kwento ni* Marc Logan" comes at the end of "TV Patrol," signing on after a newscast regularly filled with politics, bombings and killings. "*Sabi ng isang* viewer *ko, matanda na siya, sumasakit ang dibdib niya sa mga napapanood niyang balita. Kung pumasok na raw 'yung* segment *ko, parang nakakalimutan niya 'yung mga masamang nangyayari sa bayan* (One of my elderly viewers said that it pains him when he sees the news. Once my segment airs, he forgets about all the upsetting things that are happening in the country). It flatters me to hear such compliments," he beams. The segment continues to draw regular viewers, young and old alike. "I command viewership from ages 2 to 12, majority. *Siguro, 'yung* two-year-old, *baka 'yung timbre lang ng* voice, *kahit di niya maintindihan* (Maybe the two-year-olds are attracted to the tone of my voice, even though they don't understand what I'm saying)," he remarks.

Among Marc's features—from a centenarian who does karate to a cow with two heads—the strangest he has ever come across has been the pig with a square face (you had to see it to believe it). Many wonder how he is able to find such odd stories on a daily basis. "People call. They have stories in mind, they want to be featured," he shares. "*Medyo masaya lang ako kasi meron na silang* trust on how the story will go." There are, however, some stories that he would never do. "I won't do stories that would benefit someone," he says, adding that many calls were rejected during elections. At the height of the elections, he did segments criticizing the political ads and humorous features on the candidates. His most memorable story remains the impeachment trial. The live coverage of the different stations was able to catch some senators sleeping while the trial was ongoing, and Marc compiled these into one report. "I was in hot water because some of them planned to even summon me there," he narrates. He justifies the story by saying that it was better that he approached it in a funny way. "It would appear hard-hitting if I did it in a manner *na* serious *talaga 'yung istorya*," he explains.

Having to come up with amusing stories on a daily basis, Marc's job is not without its difficulties. "Sometimes I think about the consequences because it's not about making people happy *lang*," he relates, "I'm imparting a message somewhere *do'n sa mga ginagawa ko*. Something I really wanted to do even before the impeachment stories came out. *Sabi ko nga hindi na lang ako pang-sisiw na iisa lang 'yung paa, pang-manok na apat 'yung paa* (I said I wasn't just for chicks with only one leg, chickens with four legs)." But what he loves most about his job is that he gets to impart his message to a lot of people—mothers, grandparents, children, even "*mga sunog-baga, mga tambay na lalake*," and all his other followers. "I'm not a comedian. I'm a journalist. *'Yun ang* medium *ko* to say something.

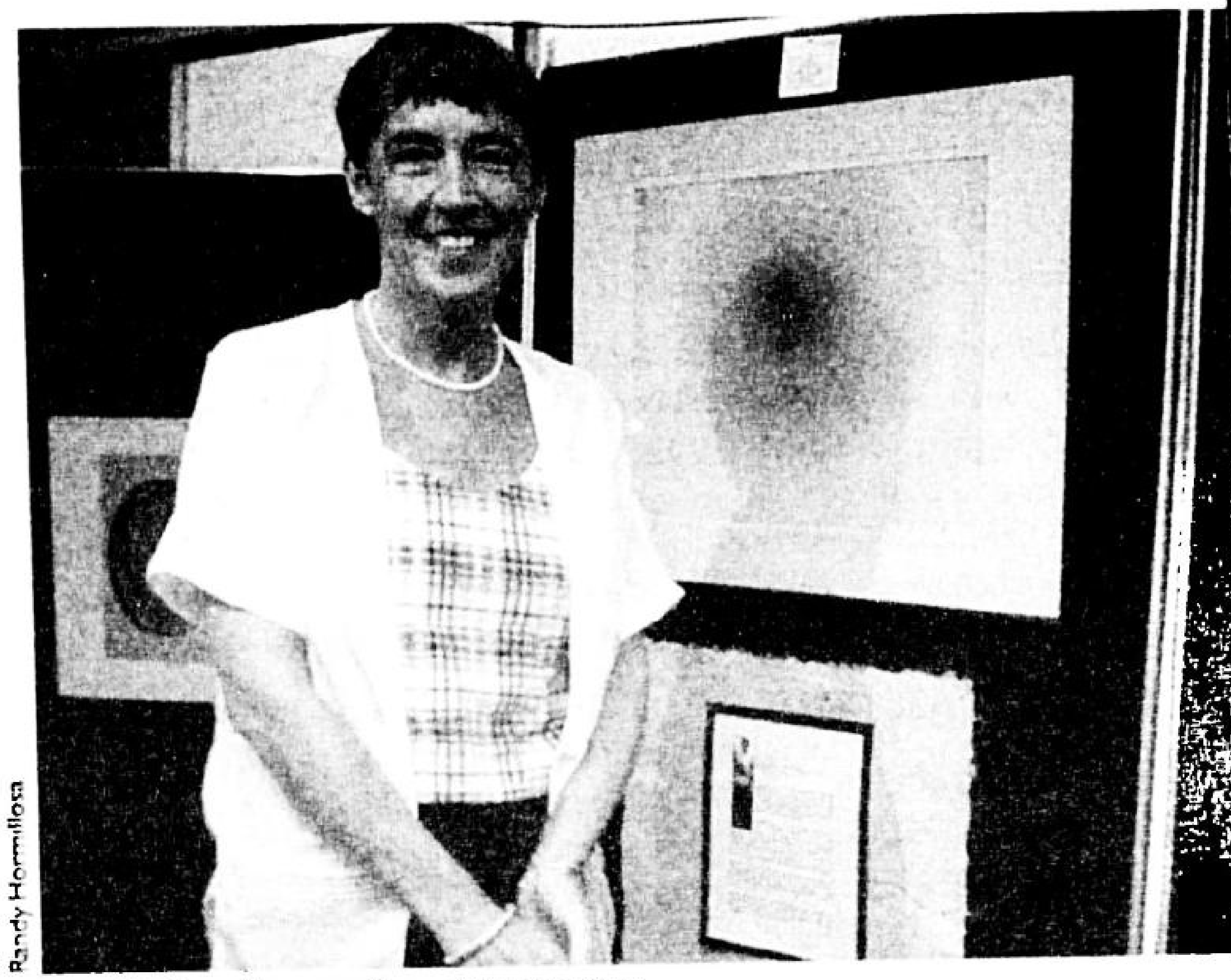
"I want to go down in history *ng* media as someone who revolutionized newscasting," he declares. For now, Marc Logan has already succeeded in going one step further by giving people something to smile about at the end of a newscast.

Pinoy Connection
by Bambi L. Harper

How two foreign ladies found themselves living in Manila – and bringing with them help and opportunities at self-improvement for the Aeta people

Angels from Across the Sea

IT STARTED WITH MT. PINATUBO'S ERUPTION IN 1991 DESTROYING THE AETA TRIBE'S HOMES, LIVELIHOOD AND WAY OF LIFE. WITH THE LAND COVERED IN LAHAR, MANY AETAS FOUND THEMSELVES DISPOSSESSED AND DESTITUTE IN RELOCATION CAMPS AND THE STREETS OF MANILA. IT WAS AT THIS POINT THAT AN ENGLISH WOMAN NAMED JENNIFER WALLUM FOUNDED ENTREPRENEUR VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE (EVA) TO HELP THE AETAS BUILD A NEW FOUNDATION BASED ON PRINCIPLES CONTRARY TO THE INGRAINED DOLE-OUT MENTALITY THAT IS SO MUCH A PART OF OUR FEUDAL SYSTEM. BASED ON AN INNATE BELIEF IN THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON, NO MATTER HOW POOR, AND CONFIDENT THAT THE POOR WILL HELP THEMSELVES GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, EVA BEGAN ITS MISSION FOR THE AETA COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES.


Randy Hormillosa

Jenny Wallum: From needle work to education

You have to believe in fate or wonder why Jenny Wallum, late of Northumberland, found herself in Pampanga via Iran, the West Indies, the British Virgin Islands, Thailand and finally the Philippines in 1981. It's as though the massive eruption found her where life had prepared her to be.

No one, Jenny Wallum says, is too poor to help another

With her husband, Peter Wallum, in Asian Development Bank, Jenny traveled and lived around the world, always using her skills to help others. In Iran, it was her knowledge of needlework that bolstered her work as a collector for "The Islamic Festival of Great Britain's Exhibit" at the Qashq'ai of Iran. On the island of St. Vincent and in the British Virgin Islands, she combined her needlecraft skills with her teacher training to guide young vocational students in needlework livelihood and business skills. During her first decade in the Philippines, she joined *L'Enfants et Developpement*, a French-funded NGO that worked with indigenous people.

All these stood her in good stead when she set up the EVA Charity Foundation, a small, self-funded, volunteer offshoot of *Enfants et Developpement* focused on the Aetas of Central Luzon. Listening to Jenny Wallum's story is to realize that there are people in this world who must be naturally enthusiastic, but the enthusiasm is grounded in great faith that in turn leads to great perseverance.

Special projects were initially organized as mental health activities for the Aetas, who as displaced persons were living in camps in extreme conditions. Working with Rosa Bistoyong, director of Region III's National Commission for Indigenous People, within two years it offered equipment, microloans, training, education scholarships and other services from livestock raising, pottery production and small retail stores. Funding is raised from the sale of products that Jenny designs, such as boxes made by prisoners in Muntinlupa or the pottery produced by Aeta women which are in turn sold in outlets like Tesoro's and Silahis in Intramuros. No one, says the lady, is ever too poor to help another. (It is also amazing how far small amounts can go when there aren't any kickbacks). EVA is now extending its help to communities in Bataan, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac and Zambales.

An Aeta girl gets a crack at a future

Randy Hormillosa

Alice Buckley: On the lookout for a worthy cause

For its work, EVA has been recognized as the top NGO in Region III by the Department of Social Welfare and Development, commended for outstanding service by the National Commission on Indigenous People, honored for outstanding service three years in a row (1997-1999) by Metrobank Foundation. Jenny herself was decorated last year at Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh, Scotland with a medal as a member of the British Empire (M.B.E.) by Queen Elizabeth for her contribution to the local Philippine Community.

The other half of the coin is Alice Buckley, a teacher of English as a Second Language at Narrabundah College in Canberra. With students representing 65 nationalities, United Nations Day gained a special meaning and a tradition has been established of collecting donations from the students during the celebration. The money is turned over to a staff member who may be leaving for a foreign country with the purpose of helping the less fortunate. In this case, the teacher happened to be Alice when her husband, John, was appointed Australian Ambassador to the Philippines. Arriving here with her wide smile and the equivalent of P30, 000, she was on the lookout for a worthy cause.

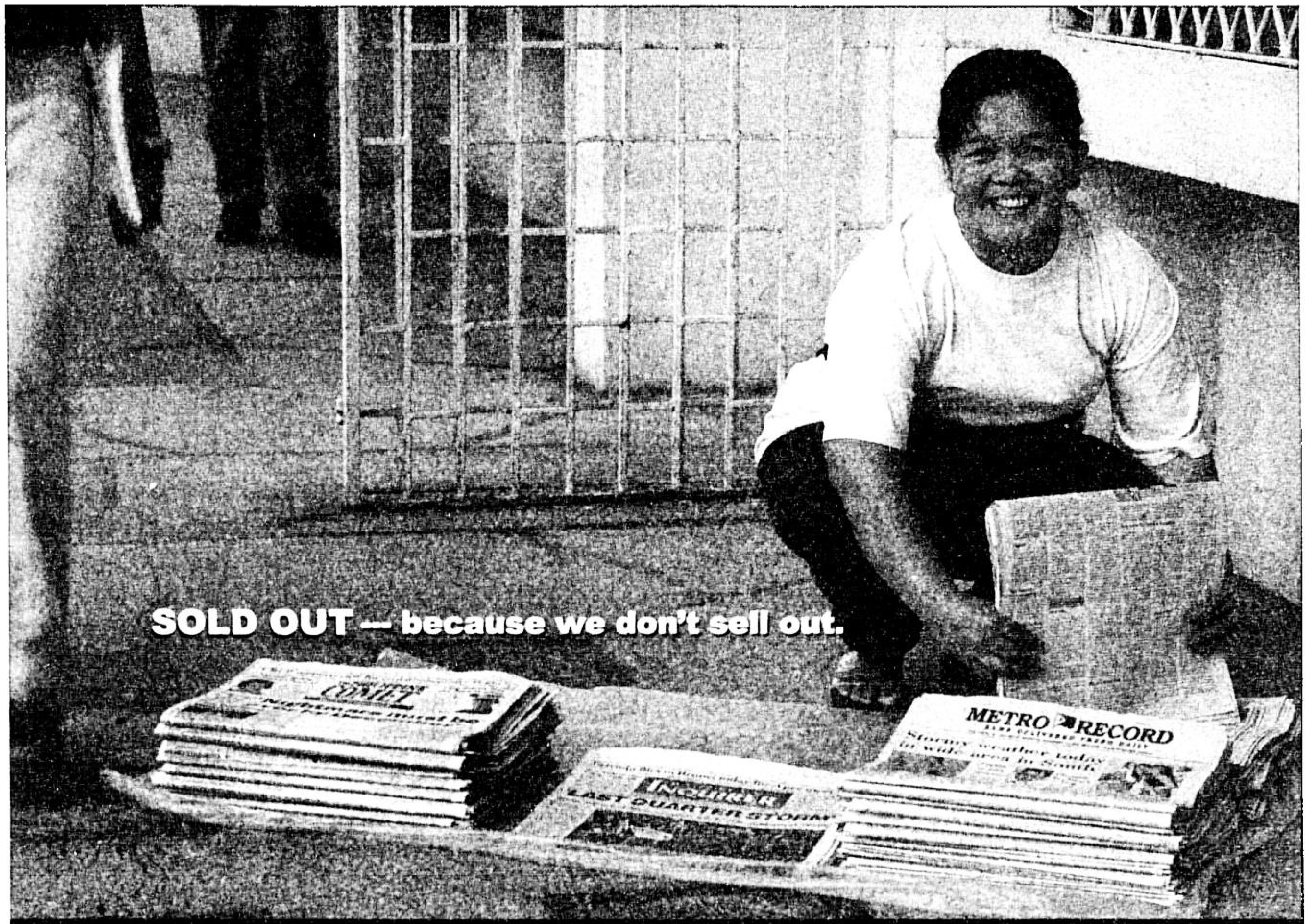
Her path crossed with Jenny when the latter gave her pitch about EVA to the Ladies of the Heads of Mission. It was pointed out that donations aren't just given to the Aetas. The rule is "give only when the Aeta elders have made formal requests and clearly indicate a sense of responsibility. This is to avoid imposing on the Aeta unwanted effects." (We have to remember that many times we give what we believe people need without asking them their opinion. Our arrogance tells us we know what's good for others).

It turned out that what the villagers wanted was a schoolhouse. With the contributions of the students of Narrabundah, the Aetas bought hollow blocks, *sawali* and nipa and built a schoolhouse for themselves at Barrio Handuan in Mabalacat, Pampanga that also serves as a community center. The two ladies like to say effectively that great oaks from little acorns grow and it doesn't matter how small the effort or the contribution; what is important is that we give and persevere. Alice points out that the act of building the structure for themselves has given the Aetas a sense of pride and ownership. Their crucial participation in its building empowered them, erasing whatever feelings of helplessness the destruction of their environment had fostered at first.

To provide for teachers, EVA entered the picture again by offering education scholarships with the requirement that recipients render a year's service teaching literacy and an optional second year to work with the children. So far 16 students have graduated from college and there are 25 presently enrolled.

In the meantime, Jenny, perhaps inspired by Alice's students in Narrabundah, must have spread the good news on one of her recent trips home, encouraging the children of the town of Morpeth in Northumberland to donate (to date P140, 880) with the help of the Lions Club. The money will go to the construction of another Aeta school in Kinaragan, Limay, Bataan that British ambassador Alan Collins will inaugurate this coming 15th of June.

The next project is the erection of Primary Health Care Clinics for medical missions to Aeta villages and for teaching Aeta herbal medicine knowledge. With the partnership between EVA Foundation and the Aetas, does anyone doubt success is just around the corner?



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from the students during the celebration. The money is turned over to a staff member who may be leaving for a foreign country with the purpose of helping the less fortunate. In this case, the teacher happened to be Alice when her husband, John, was appointed Australian Ambassador to the Philippines. Arriving here with her wide smile and the equivalent of P30, 000, she was on the lookout for a worthy cause.

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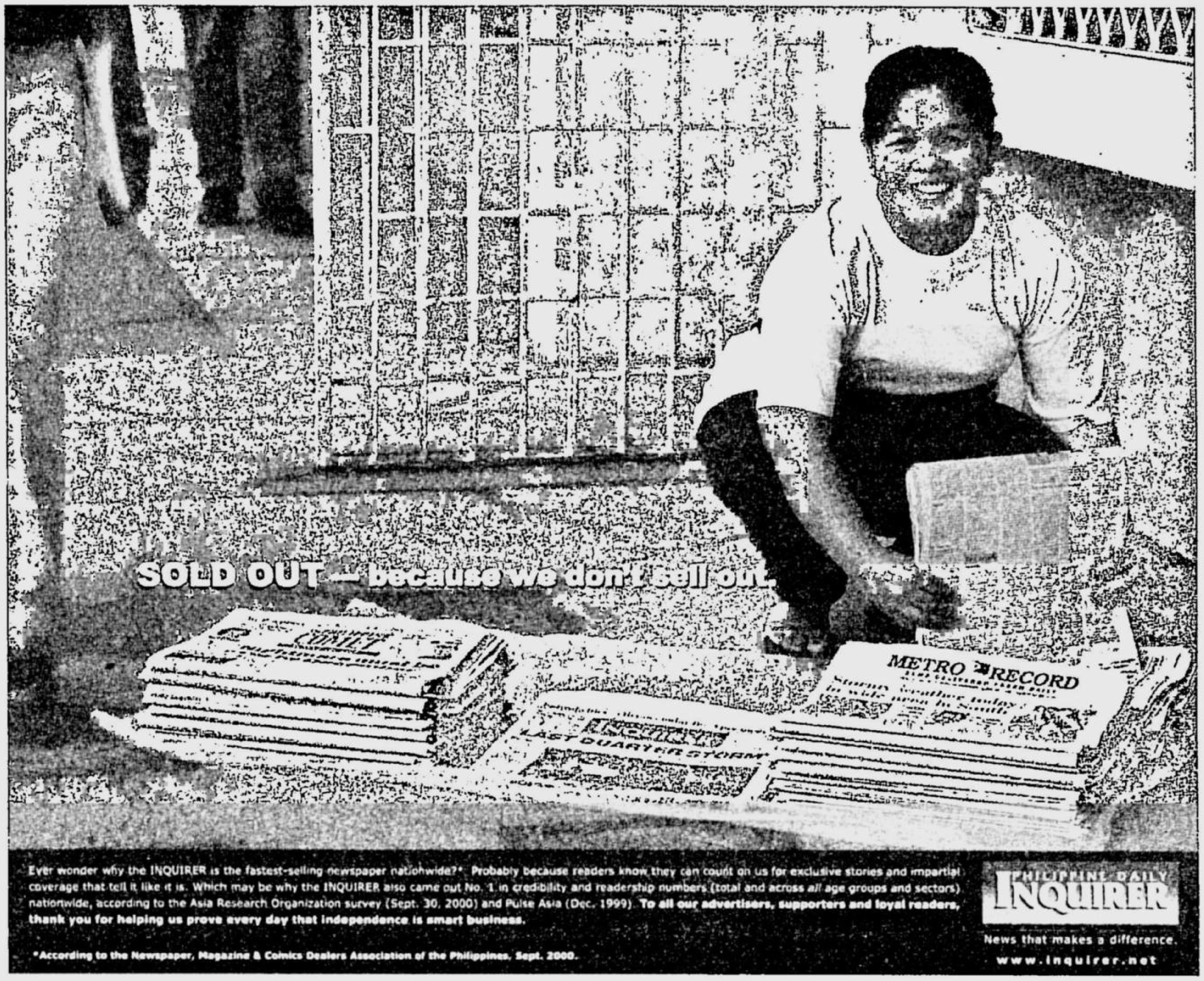

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INQUIRER

by Eric S. Caruncho

Asin, the [illegible] of [illegible] Pinoy '70s, returns with a much-awaited new album and the spirit of the band remains intact even if its members are not

Salt of the Earth

SOMETHING SPOOKY HAPPENED WHILE LOLITA CARBON AND PENDONG ABAN JR. – HALF OF THE LEGENDARY FOLK-ROCK GROUP ASIN – WERE RECORDING WHAT WAS TO BE THEIR COMEBACK ALBUM. EVERYBODY WAS TAKING FIVE, AND THE RECORDING ENGINEER HAD LEFT THE STUDIO TO TAKE A LEAK. THERE WAS NO ONE AT THE CONSOLE WHEN THE TAPE STARTED RUNNING BY ITSELF, AND EVERYONE IN THE ROOM HEARD THE FAMILIAR HIGH, THIN VOICE OF SARO BAÑARES COMING THROUGH THE MONITORS.

Hairs stood on end. It had been eight years, almost to the day, when Bañares – a founding member of the group – had been gunned down in a Cotabato bar by a drunken patron, allegedly for refusing a song request. Bañares' death effectively put an end to the glorious, turbulent 12-year roller-coaster ride that was Asin.

Or so everyone thought.

"Many strange things were happening in the studio," recalls Lolita Carbon. We are at the '70s Bistro, where a packed house is keenly anticipating her first public performance with Aban as Asin. The occasion is the launch of *"Pag-ibig, Pagbabago, Pagpapatuloy...,"* the first new Asin album since 1983's "Himig ng Lahi."

"Sometimes, when Pendong and I blend, we can hear another voice joining us. We know that's Saro."

Not everyone could hear the ghostly third-part harmony, and it could well have been a cruel trick played by their memory. But everyone saw the tape turn itself on to play Saro's song.

"We felt he wanted that to be part of the album, *kasi* farewell song *niya 'yon sa* Asin," says Aban.

Bañares had, in fact, recorded *"Sa Malayong Silangan"* one early dawn in 1991, after an all-night recording session with Lokal Brown, a supergroup that included members of Asin, the Jerks and Cocojam.

It was just Saro accompanying himself on acoustic guitar, singing about finding a better place further on up the road, further East. Like many Asin songs, there was an edge of sadness to the lyrics, as well as the hope that home lay at the end of the road.

The song never made it to the Lokal Brown album, however. In fact, the group itself fizzled out soon after and two years later, Saro was dead. *"Sa Malayong Silangan"* remained in the vaults of Ivory Records, waiting for the right time.

Asin was formed in 1977 in the wake of the folk boom that followed Freddie Aguilar's unprecedented international hit *"Anak."* The record companies were looking for a "female Freddie Aguilar." They thought they found her in Lolita Carbon, who was fronting a folk group called Salt of the Earth. The other members were her then-boyfriend Saro Bañares, Nonoy Pillora and Pendong Aban Jr.

Rechristened Asin, the group soon recorded their eponymous debut, and it became immediately clear that this was no mere Freddie Aguilar clone, but a distinctive new voice in Pinoy music. Asin scored a series of hits with *"Ang Bayan Kong Sinilangan," "Masdan Mo Ang Kapaligiran," "Itanong Mo Sa Mga Bata," "Pagbabalik"* and *"Himig ng Pag-Ibig."* More importantly, they pioneered in the incorporation of ethnic instruments and social themes in pop music.

In their prime, Asin was one of the biggest acts in the local music scene. Their records have never gone out of print (pirate Asin CDs still sell briskly on Metro sidewalks) and their songs are still jukebox staples in the provinces.

But the members' passion for their music often spilled over into their personal lives. The band soon became as famous for onstage fistfights between members as for their songs.

"Ganoon talaga ang nature *ng* Asin," reflects Aban. *"Parang* love-hate relationship. *Minsan nagkakasuntukan sa* concert *mismo*. It was part of our youth – *mainit pa ang ulo.*"

Tensions within the group came to a head and they broke up in 1979, only to reunite in 1983. But by 1990, the acrimony between the members was such that they finally called it quits. Bañares' murder in 1993 seemed to have closed the book on Asin. Nobody could have predicted that the final chapter had yet to be written.

"Hinog na (It's ripe)" is Carbon's answer to the question on everyone's mind: Why bring back Asin? Why now? Resurrection is a tricky business, especially when it comes to something as tied in with youth and the spirit of the age as pop music. The debacle of the Juan de la Cruz Band's much-hyped reunion two years ago was a stark example of why most bands should stay in retirement. No one wants to see their idols fat, balding and struggling to remember the lyrics to 20-year-old songs. Not unless they still have something vital to say.

Carbon and Aban clearly think so.

"Call of nature *na rin na bumalik ang* Asin," says Carbon. "It's right for the situation."

Two years ago, Carbon and Aban shared the stage for the first time in nearly a decade, on the same bill as the Eraserheads. They were struck by the fact that the audience spanned two generations: kids there to see the Eraserheads, and their parents who came for Asin.

*"Nagulat kami na nakaka-*relate *pa rin sa mga kanta namin ang mga*

Then: Asin in the '80s. From left, Nonoy Pillora, Lolita Carbon, Saro Bañares, Pendong Aban Jr.

Now: For Aban and Carbon the songs remain the same

bata (We were surprised the kids could still relate to our songs)," says Carbon.

One gig led to another, and quite naturally, the idea of reforming Asin and recording a new album emerged. Further encouragement was given by Vicor Records, Asin's old label. In keeping with the two-generations theme, the label was now run by the son of the man who had signed Asin to their first contract in 1977.

Things kept falling into place. The plot moved like a sequel: "Twenty Years After." Or "Still Crazy." The pair next journeyed to Boracay to seek out the other surviving member of Asin, Nonoy Pillora. Pillora gave the project his blessing, but for personal reasons declined to join.

On March 18, the two went to Cotabato to perform in a concert commemorating the eighth death anniversary of Saro Bañares. The occasion was made all the more joyous because the courts had recently sentenced Saro's killers to life imprisonment. Justice had finally been served, after a seemingly interminable wait.

"*Dinalaw naming siya* (We visited him)," recalls Carbon. "*Binalita namin na gagawa kami ng* album. *Ganoon ka*-magical *ang pakiramdam. Dala-dala namin ang* spirit *ni* Saro *pagbalik namin* (We told him we were making an album. That's how magical it felt. We're bringing Saro's spirit in our comeback)."

The next day they were back in Manila, in the studio, working on the album. The incident with the tape left little doubt that they *had* brought something back with them from Cotabato.

Any lingering doubts were laid to rest when Asin took the stage at '70s Bistro. Opening with a medley of old Asin songs, Carbon and Aban conjured up the old magic. Carbon was in particularly fine voice, her instrument – aged like fine dark rhum – still capable of raising the hairs on the back of one's neck. For years, Pendong has held down Friday nights at the Bistro with his band Ang Grupong Pendong, and it showed in his onstage confidence and the ease with which he tore into the numbers.

Asin opened with a seven-minute symphonic medley of their hits titled "*Dalawang Dekada ng Asin,*" which also leads off the new album. Then, in the middle of the set, they sang "*Sa Malayong Silangan,*" the familiar voice of Saro on tape blending with Lolita's and Pendong's. For one brief moment, the three-part harmonies brought back vivid memories of the old days. If no lighters were waved in the air, it was only because people were too engrossed in the performance.

Posthumous collaborations often give off a faint whiff of necrophilia, hallowed though the practice is with dead rock stars such as Jim Morrison, John Lennon and Bob Marley having been exhumed by surviving band members for another run at the charts. But in the case of Asin, there is instead a sense of completing something which had been left unfinished.

Just before she went onstage, I asked Lolita if the years had changed their view of life or their music.

She replied: "*Hindi pa nagbabago ang sitwasyon, paano magbabago ang pananaw namin?* (The situation hasn't changed, how will our outlook change?) We won't stop singing *'Masdan Mo Ang Kapaligiran,' 'Magnanakaw,' 'Ang Bayan Kong Sinilangan,, 'Limot na Bayani'* until things change. We will continue to sing the same old songs."

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MEMBER PANA Truth in Advertising

Cover Story

by Fe B. Zamora

- photographs by Mandy Navasero

The Mellowing of Melanie

THE MOST GLAMOROUS FILIPINA IN THE WORLD IN 1986 IS ON HER FIFTH PREGNANCY WITH HER THIRD LAWFULLY-WEDDED HUSBAND WHO, BY HAPPY COINCIDENCE, IS A LAWYER BY PROFESSION, A RANCHER BY AVOCATION AND A MELANIE MARQUEZ-LIFETIME-LOVER BY INCLINATION. HE IS ALSO SURNAMED LAWYER, WHICH MAKES MELANIE, WHO HAS HAD SOME LEGAL ENTANGLEMENTS IN THE PAST, A LAWYER HERSELF.

Not in a legal sense, though. "I love being with her, and she loves being with me," declares lawyer Lawyer, age 47. "I finally found the right man. I feel so secure with him," counters model Melanie, age 36, nuzzling Adam's palm against her cheek.

It's a joy to know Melanie has finally found her Adam and her Garden of Eden; which just happens to be an 8,000-acre rambling ranch in Utah. Melanie says they have 500 cattle, 1,500 sheep, a score of horses of which she has two, assorted fowl and gorgeous terrain. The centerpiece of the ranch is a seven-bedroom wooden house which she shares with Adam, her children Manuel Lito, 19; Mazen, 11; Maxine Dominique, 9, and Michelle Daniella, 5. Other welcomed guests include a dozen woodpeckers who have riddled the walls with holes. "The house has character. And we have no neighbors," she exclaims. The nearest Filipino community is in Salt Lake City, which is not near by any standard.

Melanie is home to visit her father, prolific lover and movie director Artemio "Temyong" Marquez, 77, who is under treatment for cancer of the lungs. Melanie says the prognosis is not good. She rues her siblings' absence from Temyong's bedside at the Veterans Memorial Hospital. Melanie's late mom was the second wife. "She was the most beautiful among my father's women," she says, her eyes turning wistful. "And I am the forgiving daughter." Temyong's children include Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez and former model Via Marquez. Melanie's only brother Totoy was once a basketball player.

For a change, Melanie is not in standard model's get-up of Levis, cotton polos and high-cut leather boots. She's in a white cotton frock, loose and flowing, and flat shoes. She comes in alone, and without fuss, settles in for the interview. She makes a mock show about her growing tummy, full breasts and signs of weight gain. Her pregnant weight is 145 lbs, as against her modeling weight of 110-115 lbs.

But she's not complaining. On the contrary, Melanie is ecstatic about her life as Mrs. Adam Lawyer. She's married, she's pregnant, and she has a husband who comes home daily. "This is the only time I really feel married," she laughs. "I thought it was okay for a husband not to come home everyday because my former husbands did that to me. *Hindi pala* normal *'yon.*"

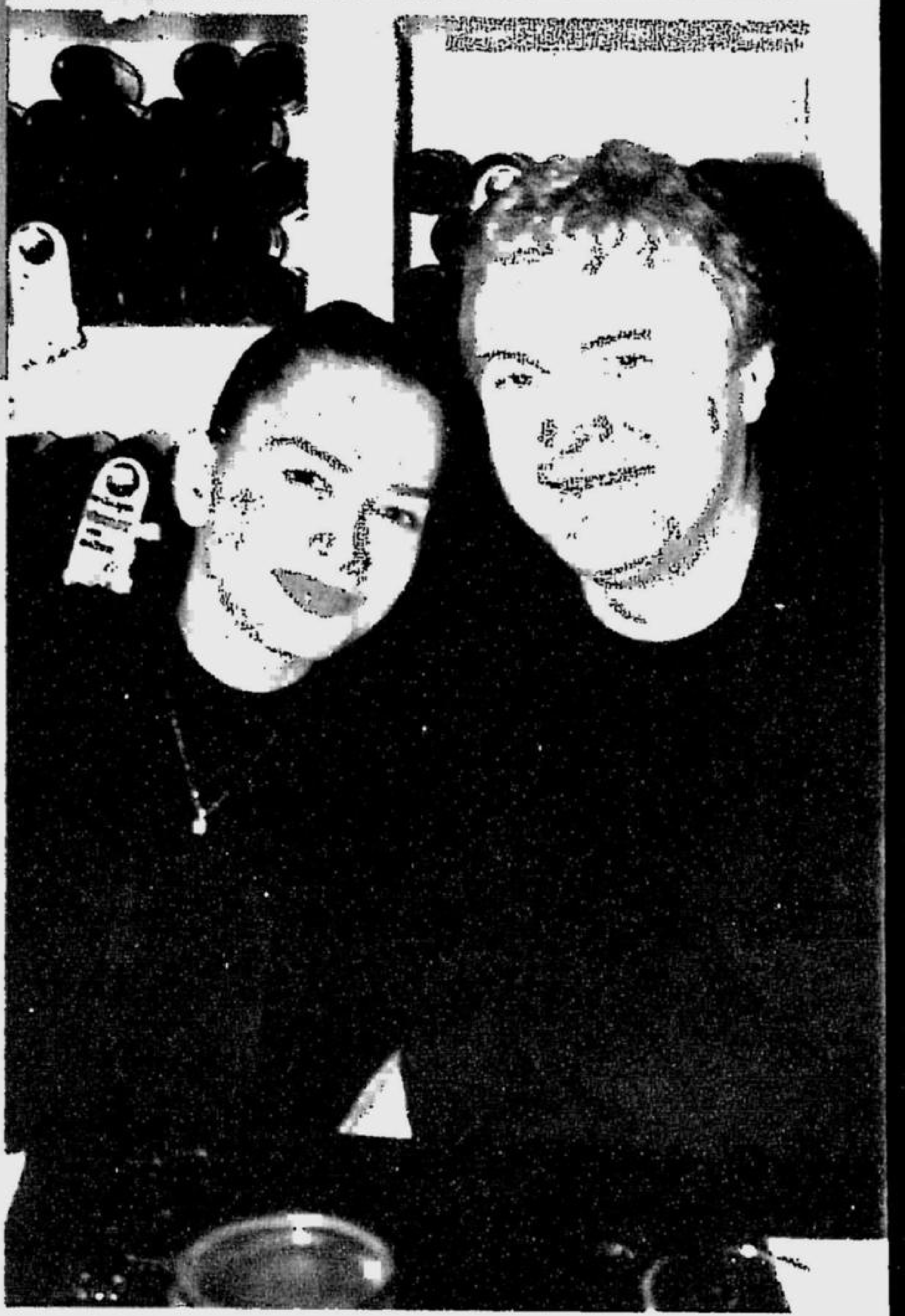
Maybe it had something to do with her life as a child of a "second" family. Which may also have something to do with her vehement bias against unfaithful men. "I cannot stand infidelity," she says. "So I told my ex-husbands, what more do you want? *Pareho lang naman ang babae. Nagkataon pa maganda ako.* (All women are the same, and I happen to be beautiful). And you are still doing this to me? *Ang kapal mo.* (You've got some nerve)."

Melanie was a willowy 13-year-old when she was discovered by fashion designer Bobby Novenario in Angeles City. She was brought to Manila, introduced to the right connections and trained in the ways of a pedigreed woman. She remembers the late *Tita* Conching (Sunico) patiently teaching her table manners and social graces. Melanie's transformation was swift and seamless. She was groomed for the prestigious Bb. Pilipinas contest. In 1979, Melanie came home as Miss International, the third Filipino to win the title. She was only 15, but her passport showed she was 18.

Melanie's victory opened the beauty contests to *promdis* who have nothing but looks, talent and guts. "I took the jeepney. I didn't have a *yaya* or an *alalay*," she says. Modeling was an even more exclusive domain, with mannequins ranked according to their mothers' closeness to the designer. It didn't matter if they looked like stiff wooden dolls on the ramp.

Melanie had that elusive X-factor. Despite her fractured English, and a tendency to engage in nasty catfights, the girl was a natural on the ramp. She became the toast of Manila's fashion designers, to the chagrin of the Forbes Park beauties and their stage mothers. "They really ganged up on me. I was a Hilton model, but

After two failed marriages and enough drama in her life to put a telesine to shame, this real-life Pinoy Cinderella may have finally found happiness – on a ranch in Utah, with a man who promises to love her, future wrinkles and all



Melanie with Adam: They love being with each other

I was always invited to do galas at the Hyatt. And so I learned how to defend myself."

She was also always complaining about the fees. "I didn't have rich parents," she says. She joined the Karilagan International and during a show in Malacañang, she told Imelda Marcos what it was like to work hard and not get paid on time. Imelda understood. "She paid me P5,000 per show, and we were having shows five days a week in Malacañang."

And so with her income from her Malacañang shows, Melanie bought her first house in Philamlife Homes in Quezon City. She was already Miss Philippines, but not yet Miss International. She had to bring her father along to sign the contract "because I was a minor."

Then she fell in love with then action star (now Pampanga Governor) Lito Lapid. She says he misled her into the affair. "He told me he was already separated. I was too young." The affair left her with a son, Manuel Lito, and a broken heart. Armed with her Miss International title, she went to New York and buckled down to work, leaving her baby with her mother. She vowed to make good "without a man beside me."

"Modeling agencies don't care about your beauty titles. You must look like a model, or there is nothing there," says Melanie. To look like a model, one must be tall, and have the bony, angular, lean frame of a mannequin. She also must have the skill and talent of a model. And to survive in the competitive modeling jungle, she must have guts, charm, energy and discipline.

Melanie crows that she's got it all. "I have the skills. I have the height. I have the looks. When they sent me to different photographers, I was able to produce different faces. I can be Oriental. I can be South American. Anything goes."

There are three categories of models abroad: runway, print and commercial. "I am telegenic, photogenic and I'm also good on ramp. I was doing a lot of work," she recalls. Fee was an astounding $3,000 per hour, but nearly 50 percent is lopped off for taxes and agent's fees. And this was the '80s! "It's hard work. You cannot afford to be lazy or tardy."

In 1984, Melanie was adjudged New York Face of the '80s. She won as Super Model of the World in 1985 and was crowned Most Glamorous Woman of the World in 1986. The organizers didn't know she had a baby boy back home. That same year, she came home and did her biofilm "The Untold Story of Melanie Marquez," where she played herself, and won a Best Actress award.

In Manila, she fell in love with a sheik from the Middle East and married him in Muslim rites. But the marriage lasted only 97 days. It was a childless marriage. Then Melanie fell in love again, and had another son, Mazen. Then she fell in love again with her long-time friend Derek Dee. They got hitched in Hong Kong in 1991, against the will of Derek's family, who wanted a Chinese girl for a daughter-in-law.

"Derek and I were good friends, but we were not good as husband and wife," Melanie says. The couple parted bitterly in 1998 after two daughters and a well-covered exchange of charges about drugs, neurosis and a meddling mother-in-law. For Melanie, it was the pits.

A good friend, model Rossana Zamora, who is married to Vic Vargas, one day asked her to meet Vic's boss. It was May 1999. Adam remembers the incident like it happened only yesterday.

It was at the Shangri-La Plaza, he says. "She was sort of shy. She was hiding herself behind a hat. But I thought she was very kind. And she wasn't above anything."

With two failed marriages, Melanie at that time had foresworn marriage. She thought Adam was just an acquaintance. But while in San Francisco working on her divorce papers from Derek, she got a call from Adam. He wanted to see her. He flew in from Utah. Then he invited her to his ranch. She accepted the invitation, but had intended it only as a halfway stop on her way to a dental appointment in New York.

"The first persons that he introduced me to were his parents," Melanie recalls. She thought it was charming. Then she found out Adam needed an assistant in herding the sheep. "So I asked him if he had an extra horse, and I rode," Melanie says.

Funny, but Melanie learned how to ride during her engagement to the sheik. Adam was surprised and impressed. Then Melanie attacked the kitchen and showed off her Kapampangan culinary skills. "He thought I was all glamour, like his former supermodel girlfriends," she laughs. Adam wouldn't let her go to the dentist anymore. "He offered me the best dentist in Utah," she chuckles.

"It was very spontaneous. He couldn't believe I was just a simple woman. I cooked, I washed the dishes, I cleaned the house," she recalls. "He made me laugh. But we also talked a lot. So I was the house guest *na naging* housewife, *tuluy-tuloy na.*"

Adam himself was married for 10 years, but it just wasn't it. It ended in divorce. He was engaged for three years, but again, it didn't happen. "When I first got married, I didn't enjoy being together. And that was sad. We both tried so hard to keep it, but we were just too unhappy," he recalls.

With Melanie, it's just all too different. Adam declares: "I love to be with her. I want to be with her, not because I have to, but because I love her. I truly love her."

They married on June 22, 2000 in Hawaii. It was a garden wedding at a hotel in Honolulu. When a group of Filipinos who were having a seminar in the same hotel learned of the wedding, they all rushed for a souvenir photo, to Adam's amazement.

"I have an instant family," Adam proudly declares one sultry afternoon

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Her World

by Anton San Diego

Lupita Kashiwahara

THIS woman inspires me. In the relatively short time I interviewed her, it helped me see life in a different manner. Words cannot define the richness of her soul and experience. When it comes to her political and creative beliefs, she is feisty, determined, opinionated and strong. On the other hand, when it comes to her family and husband, she is all heart.

Lupita Kashiwahara is a "been there, done that" type of person. She has seen and experienced it all – the death of her father at a young age, being one of the first woman directors, losing her brother Ninoy, being a mother and wife and belonging to one of the most powerful political families in the land, the Aquinos. But she says, "I am still learning."

One hot early morning at her La Vista residence, we spoke for almost two hours on many topics. At first, she was not comfortable speaking about herself. "It's too self-serving." Only when I convinced her that her life may be able to help someone reading this did she relent. Asking her about her siblings with whom she has had political differences, she says, "I love Butz and Tessie, I actually tried to contact them but they are busy campaigning. I understand them – not that I condone their belief, but I can understand them." What do you think your mom would say if she was alive, I asked. "She would say, 'Pray.' My mom has always been a Godly woman, and was the unifying force in our family."

She would recount stories of her growing up and how their family had strong political views. It would probably be great to be an outsider and listen in on one of their family lunches. She describes the Aquinos as being "*pang-entablado* and behind the scenes" and adds that there are "the good and there are the better. Paul, me, Maur, we're behind-the scenes. Ninoy, Butz and Tessie, they're *pang-entablado*. I found my calling behind the *entablado*. When I was young, somebody told me, 'The spotlight is very limited because of the limit of the light, whereas the darkness around it is limitless, and whoever holds the light and points it is important.' And that's where I want to be."

Today, she lives in the US, coming back to Manila three to four times a year. She points out that the highlight of her day there is doing the groceries and checking out what's on TV. However, in Manila things are different. Besides being with family and helping out in the last elections, she satisfied her artistic side by doing some shows for Channel 2's *"Maalaala Mo Kaya"* series. When I ask her if she feels she should have stayed and pursued her career, she is quick to say, "I know what you're saying. I look at the papers and I read about all the young ones that I worked with before, like Mario O'Hara, Maryo de los Reyes. Now they're all names unto themselves in the movie world. Had I stayed, I'd be with them but in a different way. But I'm happy where I am."

Of all the subjects we covered, none affected me more than her relationship with her husband, Ken Kashiwahara. She says of him, " He is my tranquilizer because when he walks into a room, I have no fear, I do not need to struggle. After 23 years of being together we still snuggle and hug; we try to find new ways of proving who loves the other more." They have lived a full life, but if it's a life well spent.

This is Her World.

Mike Aquino

"What is achievement? Did I make a mark, did I change somebody's life? That to me is achievement and I don't know if I have done that yet"

What's your favorite movie?

I liked "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." It absolutely captured my idea of a dream movie – action, drama and all. That's one movie I really, truly enjoyed. Any movie that Chito Roño does, I love. He's a very good director. I haven't seen *"Tanging Yaman"* by Laurice (Guillen) but I'm sure it's also good. We have many, many good directors now like Joel Lamangan. Joey Reyes' "Live Show" was very good. I really think it was a very good movie and it's just too bad it was misunderstood in this country. It is a very antiseptic movie about sex without showing the titillation. Each sex act was choreographed. That's the beautiful part of it. And it didn't compromise anything. The mere fact that "Live Show" was invited to a lot of foreign festivals speaks for itself, since it's hard to enter those festivals. When I saw Joey I said, "Joey, you are in the ranks of our good directors, if not great directors." I really meant it.

What was your first ambition when you were young?

I wanted to be a ballet dancer, but it was such a strenuous activity. I lost so much weight that my mom had to put me in the hospital just to fatten me up. I was just too much into it. That really broke my heart. But now, I can understand why . For a time I was really, really frustrated. But you know, it was a saving grace, especially because two or three years later, it was decreed that ballet was a no-no for Catholic students because of the short dress. It was really the very, very Dark Ages. But that was the rule at that time, I remember it very clearly because it hit me very personally. That was my first dream.

Your favorite memory as a child?

It was in '47, I remember very clearly we had prepared a ballet number like the "Nutcracker Suite" and we performed for my dad in the sala. We rolled the carpet and it was one of those rare times when my dad was home, because he was very active politically, as you know. And so we were there, performing to our hearts' content. Of course, one of the first things my dad said was, "Why are your tutus so short?" I also remember the night my dad left for Japan. It was evening and it was raining. I don't know why every dramatic moment has to have rain. I remember a car took him away – not that he was captured, but he was going to be away for what seemed to be a very long time. I was very young.

What is the best thing your parents ever taught you?

Give love and love will be returned. Ah, it was always the favorite expression of my mother. She had conversations with the Lord—her whole life was one conversation with the Lord. And from her I learned a lot of things—tolerance and patience, which I keep practicing with absolute hardship on my part.

What are your greatest fears?

I'm afraid of dying alone. I'm afraid of dying in traffic. That I'd be caught in traffic and I'm going to get a heart attack, or I'm alone and I can't get anywhere. I'm afraid of that. I'm not afraid of heights or getting into rickety airplanes or fast cars. I'm not afraid of dying. I'm afraid of dying alone.

If you could go back in time, say 10 or five years, what would you advise yourself to do or not to do?

Probably little things – be more patient, tolerant, less hard on myself. Maybe try a little more charity.

Who are the living people you admire?

Ah, this is not *sipsip, ha*? Gloria. I really admire the President. Especially recently. The reason I say so is because I have seen her focus and determination, up close. I've seen how absolutely hardworking she is, and her energy is unbelievable.

What or who inspires you?

Creation. And it's not something corny. I'm talking about when I see the sunset or hear music or see something beautiful. Very inspiring. Immediately I try to be creative, like if I hear good music, suddenly I think of a poem or a play, a drama.

What's one thing that you don't have at the moment that you wish you had?

Youth and health. As you get older your bones creak, you sleep a little longer, you lie down a little bit longer. I wish I had the energy to carry 100 pounds of luggage. I'm a little bit slower now.

What keeps you busy?

In Manila, I live a double life. I have so many projects. I'm here to direct once or twice, like *"Maalaala Mo Kaya,"* that's my favorite TV program right now. So, I direct and I try to schedule that when I come to Manila. So that's what keeps me busy. And then in the States, what keeps me busy is, "What will I try today?" It's chosen, it's self-imposed. I try to limit my civic activities. I'm a member of a lot of organizations but I try to limit that to a minimum. Right now, I'm a member of the Board of the International House in Western California, and I was just made program director.

What relaxes you?

Ken. He's my tranquilizer. Ken's my darling. When he walks in a room, I have no fear.

Election 2001: With Joker Arroyo (above) and Juan Flavier on the campaign trail

What upsets you?

What upsets me immensely is the stupidity, inefficiency and arrogance of people. I have no room for that and that's what I keep praying to God for, to please give me patience.

What do you believe is your greatest achievement so far?

Well, you know, I've been struggling with that question. I really don't know, because it would be politically correct to say my six children. But what is really my greatest achievement – you know, I'm still struggling. What is achievement? Did I make a mark, did I change somebody's life? That to me is achievement and I don't know if I have done that yet. Maybe in a small way, the fact that I have paved the way for women directors, that I was the first woman director who was recognized. Maybe that can be one achievement.

Greatest lesson you have learned so far from life?

I have followed a set of principles: You can kill people with

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One of her greatest achievements? Children and grandchildren

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Artwatch
by *Margarita De Pano*

After three terms in the academe as dean of the UP College of Fine Arts, Nestor Vinluan is back painting up a storm

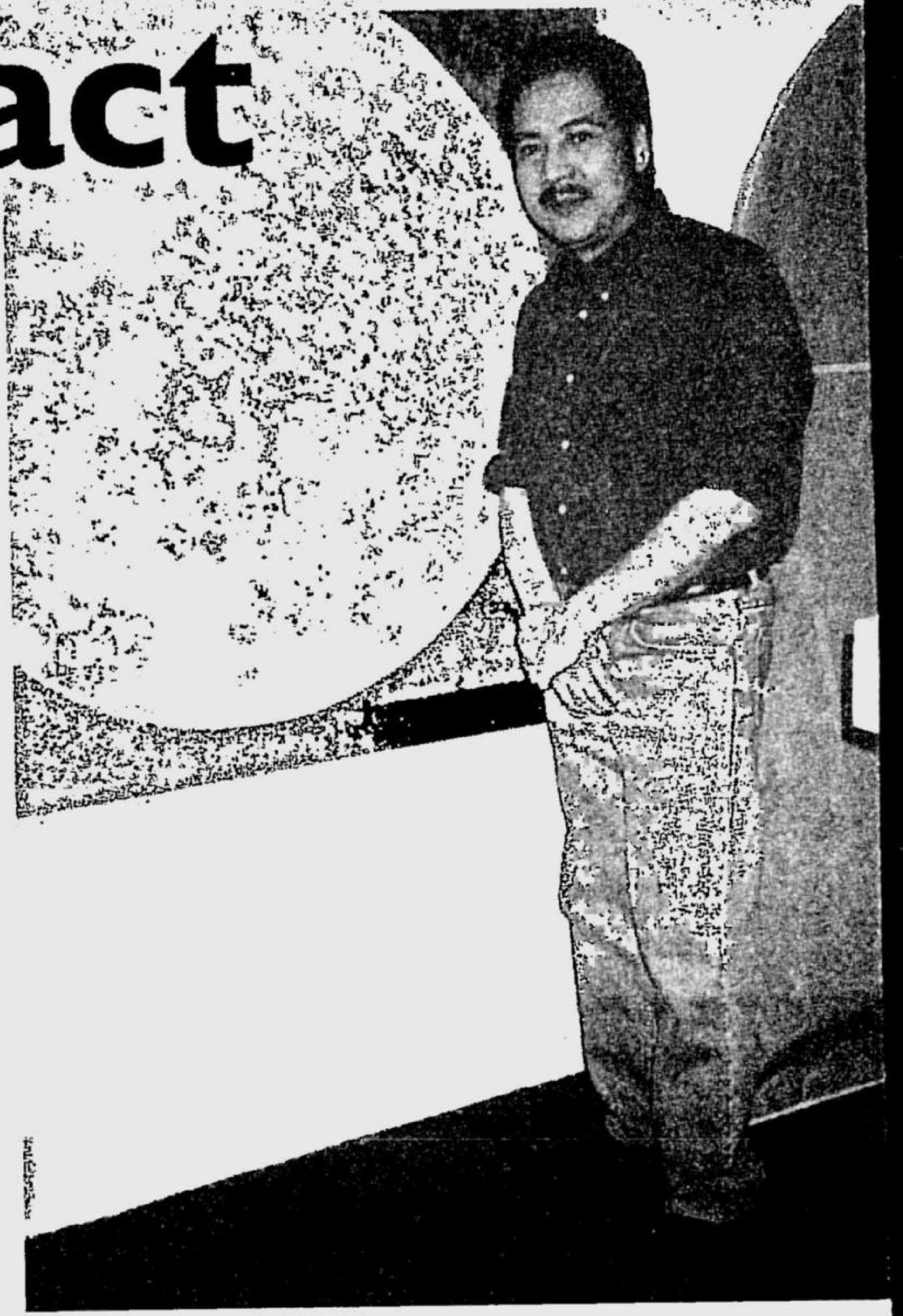
Substance in **Abstract**

EVERY THING IN NESTOR VINLUAN'S HOME SMACKS OF CREATIVITY: THE PAINTED PEBBLES ADORNING THE CARPET, THE WOODEN FLUTES AND CHINESE DOLLS HIDING IN THE LIVING ROOM, THE ART MAGAZINES AND THE CANDLES AND CRYSTAL GLOBES SITTING ON THE TABLE. JUST THEN, A PAINT-SPATTERED NESTOR RUSHES OUT OF HIS STUDIO, APOLOGIZING PROFUSELY FOR TAKING SO LONG. "I HAD TO FINISH MY PLATES," HE EXPLAINS. "I'LL JUST CHANGE, THEN WE'LL TALK."

Nestor Olarte Vinluan, catapulted to fame in the early 1970s by his "Window Series" collection, had disappeared from the mainstream art scene for over a decade. His work would appear in selected group shows in the past several years. His solo exhibit, last year's "Of Earth, Sky and Spirit," was his first since he took over as dean of the UP College of Fine Arts in 1989. Nestor, now 52, admits that although he enjoyed it, his job at the UPCFA contributed to his lack of prolificacy. "I had to manage around 50 people," he shares. "It was fun, but I had to sacrifice my painting time."

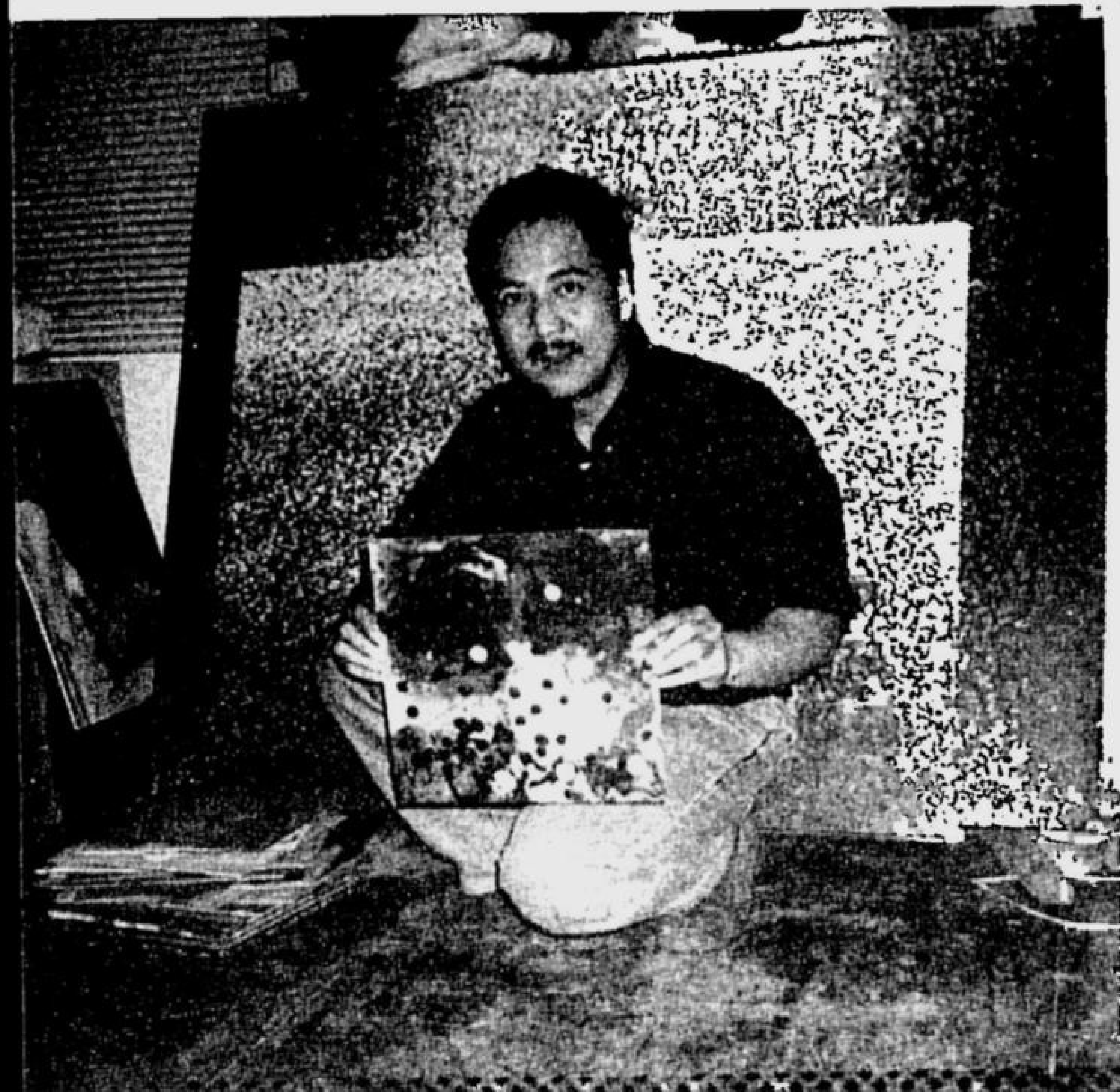
Now, his focus is back. After finishing his third term as UPCFA dean, Nestor went back to being a full-time painter in 1998. He is busy preparing for two other exhibits: one at the Ayala Museum in September, and one in New York in the summer of 2002. "So far it's a good collection," he smiles, gesturing to a dozen or so frames full of colorful acrylic. "I'm hoping for a good show."

He shouldn't worry. Ever since he went to Manila to study painting, artistic success faithfully followed Nestor. When he was 18, a Chinese artist took notice of his pictures and brought 19 of them to New York, handing over thousands of dollars in exchange. The Vinluans were educators: Numer, a high school principal, and Lelie, an art instructor. They raised Nestor—the sixth in a brood of seven—in the company of books, paintings and poetry, and encouraged him to follow his dreams. Growing up in Pozorrubio, Pangasinan, Nestor was a devoted son whose only vice was art and punk music. With no workshops in the province, so he studied drawing with the help of his mother. He would paint and sculpt using brown clay. Entering college with no formal artistic education, UP would become an eye-opener. The art galleries, theater galas and museums enthralled Nestor. In class, he absorbed ideas like a sponge. "*Nakaka*-high," he says of his days in UP. "It was the first time I encountered so much art in one place."



Nestor Vinluan returns to a life of constant creation

After graduation, Nestor started looking for an eight to five job. "I wanted to be independent before I got married," he reasons. "I wanted to paint, but I thought I wouldn't be able to make enough money to support a family." Nestor would have spent most of his life behind a designer's desk, painting on the side, had fate not intervened. During an exhibit at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, a lady from Singapore came in and bought all his work. In one transaction, Nestor's pockets became fuller than they've ever been.



A good collection, so far: Shows are scheduled here and abroad

He was already one of the most celebrated young artists of the '70s, with various awards and accolades under his belt, but greater things awaited him. After a string of successful exhibits both here and abroad, he applied and was granted a Fulbright Hays scholarship to study art at Pratt Institute in New York. He brought home in 1982, after three years of post-graduate studies, works that were arguably tougher, reflecting the temper of New York's dark and fast-paced lifestyle.

Armed with newfound knowledge from Pratt, Nestor went back to UP to teach. It took a mere six years after he began teaching for him to become a candidate for dean; earning the position in 1989. He proved a worthy successor to the deanship of the UPCFA, which boasted of such great names as Fernando Amorsolo and Jose Joya. It was during his term that the UPCFA, after being homeless for over 80 years, was able to find a home.

For someone who was labeled "mercurial" in his youth, Nestor mellowed during his years at UP. Now he goes on nature trips, relying on visions of fields, mountains and the ocean to calm his spirit. As shown in his latest exhibit, Nestor finds most of his creative inspiration

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People for the Planet

by Alya B. Honasan

A go-getting publisher takes over one of the country's most active environmental organizations

Action Man

THE NEWS WAS WELCOMED BY MANY IN ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCLES. AFTER YEARS OF INVOLVEMENT IN MARINE CONSERVATION PROJECTS – MOST NOTABLY HIS WORK WITH THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON MARINE MAMMAL MANAGEMENT AND AUTHORSHIP OF THE BEST-SELLING "A FIELD GUIDE TO WHALES AND DOLPHINS IN THE PHILIPPINES" – JOSE MA. LORENZO "LORY" TAN WAS BECOMING A CARD-CARRYING CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR FOR REAL. AS GENERAL MANAGER OF BOOKMARK AND PUBLISHER OF SOME OF THE MOST ECO-FRIENDLY VOLUMES LOCALLY AVAILABLE, TAN HAS LONG PLAYED TOWN BARKER FOR GREEN CAUSES. NOW, HE IS OFFICIALLY IN THE THICK OF THE DECISION-MAKING HIMSELF WITH HIS APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT OF WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)-PHILIPPINES.

Formerly known as Kabang Kalikasan ng Pilipinas (KKP), WWF is an NGO that aims to stop and eventually reverse the degradation of the Philippine environment by preserving biodiversity, harnessing the use of sustainable natural resources, and reducing pollution and wasteful exploitation of such resources and energy. The NGO is present in such marine hotspots as the Tubbataha Reef Marine Park in the Sulu Sea, Anilao, the Turtle Islands and the whale shark habitat of Donsol, Sorsogon.

Tan now divides his time between Bookmark's Makati office and WWF's Quezon City headquarters. With Tan at the helm, the WWF is expected to adopt an even higher profile. **SIM** threw him a few questions between visits to conservation sites around the country.

Q: When did you take over as WWF president? Any other movements within the organization? And how do you feel about your new job?

A: The board decision was made April 26. Former President Romy Trono has just been appointed director for the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Program. This is a tri-national effort between the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia to promote conservation of this area, the epicenter of marine biodiversity in the world.

Q: How do you intend to divide your time between your business and being head of this NGO?

A: Even prior to the appointment, much of my time was given to such work. As photographer, as writer, as spokesperson, in committees and task forces, as marine mammal person. I already sat on the boards of WWF and Haribon, and acted as an occasional consultant to Bantay Kalikasan. It is not a major shift. It just requires me to look at organizational concerns as well, rather than simply issues and campaigns. A little more time behind a desk, a little more time talking to donors, a little less time on the field.

Q: What's the first thing on your agenda with WWF? Any pet projects? First steps?

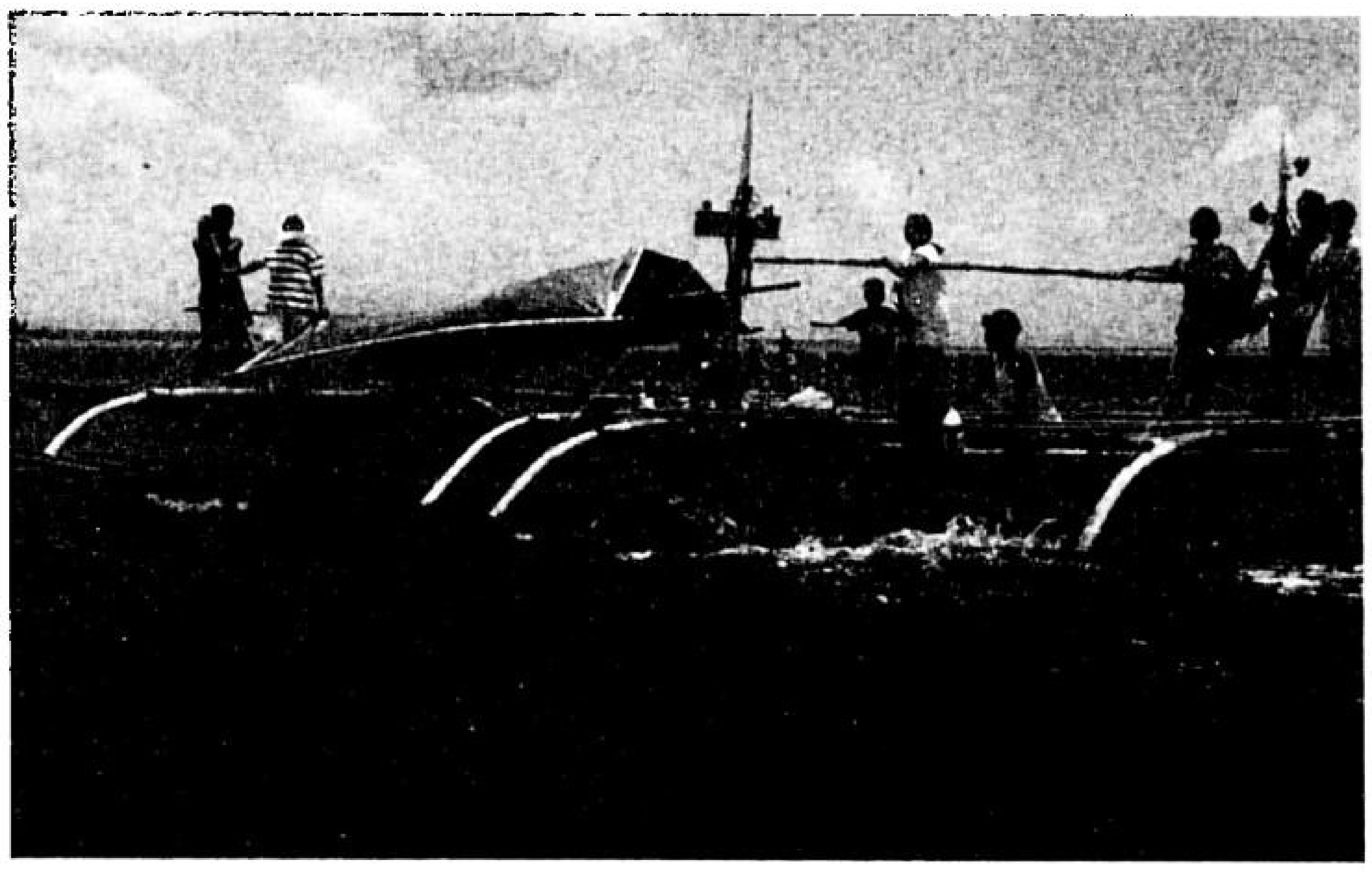
A: Professionalizing. Systematizing. Streamlining. Rationalizing systems. With added emphasis on planning, focusing, teamwork, institutionalizing. Fine-tuning and realignments with the end in view of speeding up work and increasing output. The environment cannot wait.

Q: Are you bringing in a new management style? What kind of organization has been entrusted to you, and how does that suit you?

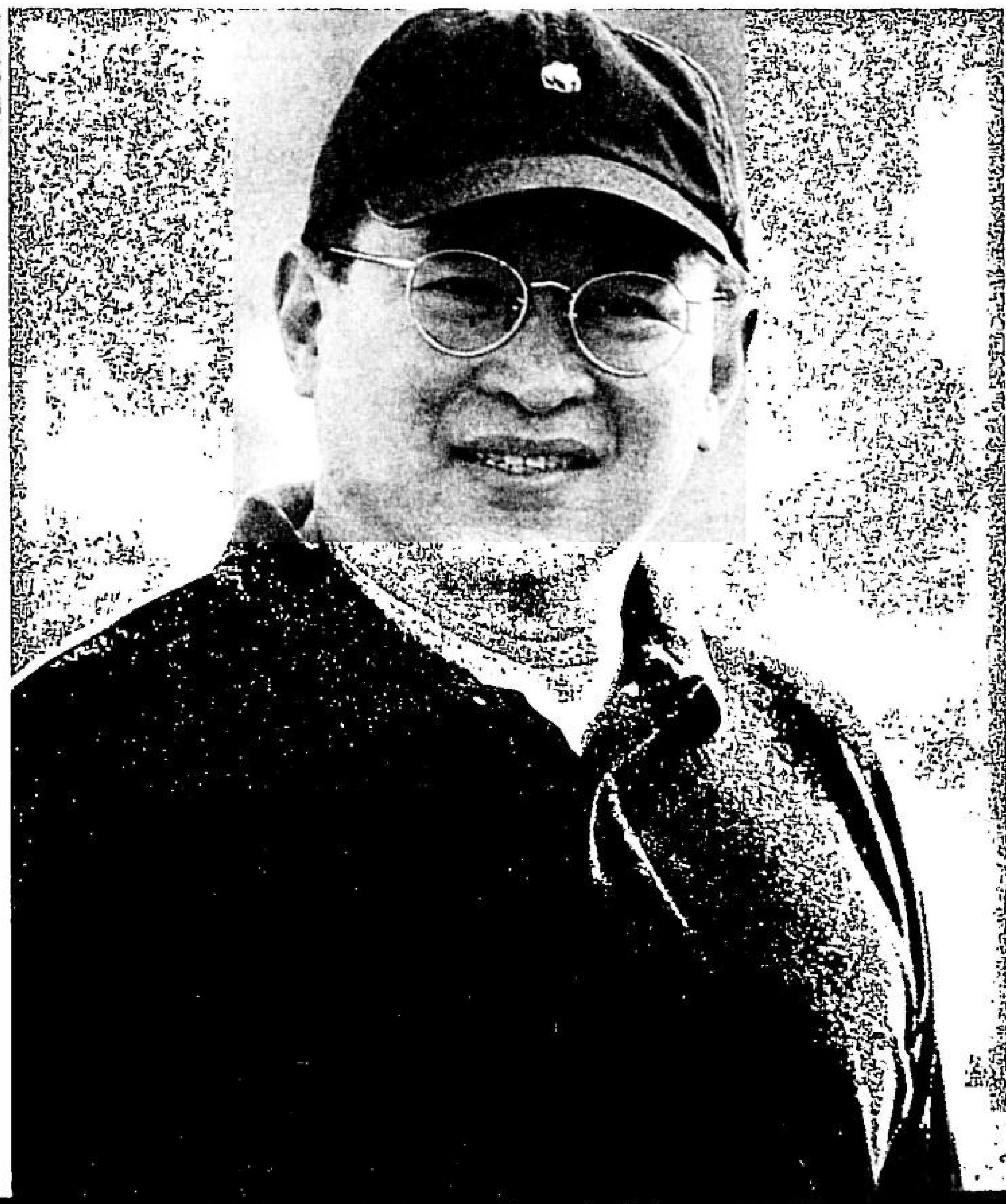
A: New? Everyone has his own style. The important thing is whether or not that style is appropriate. Does it respond to the needs of the organization at that time? WWF is an NGO, with excellent international links and a string of local success stories. It is staffed with talented and extremely dedicated people. And it's blessed with some very exciting projects, all community based. This suits me fine. I believe that the private sector will gradually replace a number of functions now handled by government. The stakeholder, i.e., the voter, the taxpayer, the boss, will take over. Efficiency will rule. This is a long process, but it is already happening. Here and there.

Q: When did you take over and for how long is the job yours?

A: Got down to briefings on May 1. I will do the job for as long as the Board believes I am making a positive contribution to WWF, and the environment. Nothing lasts forever. I will do my bit, as best I can. And when it is time to leave, I will move on. My only hope is to leave WWF a better organization. Stronger. Self-starting. More focused. More efficient. With a few more successes tucked under its belt.



The WWF-run interactive program with whale sharks in Donsol, Sorsogon; Tan, far right, plans to fine-tune systems



Neal Oshima

End Page

by John L. Silva

Filipino Gay **History 101**

There is no hint of a limp wrist, no discerning signs, save the fact that he is engaging in an occupation reserved for women. But up close, there is the slightest curve of a smile and alluring eyes reserved for the photographer and viewers a century hence

THE best part of collecting Filipiniana is when you come across something that personally speaks to you. A fellow collector will tell me how their great grandfather is cited in a 19th century almanac they just bought. Another would eagerly point out a family house in an old photograph. Yet another would show off an old painting of a countryside scene and reminisce that it was exactly how he remembered it when he was young.

For me, it was a book of photographic illustrations titled *"Recuerdos de Filipinas"* by Felix Laureano published in Barcelona in 1895. Dedicated to his countryman and friend, Juan Luna y Novicio, Laureano had printed 37 photographs he took on a journey around the Philippines with informal, often humorous, and sentimental notes about each photograph.

The photographs are remarkable because Laureano, an artist, shunted the stiffness of studio portraiture and instead took his camera and pointed it at the daily lives of people. A provincial wedding procession complete with a band headed for the church; a rare photograph of Aetas (aborigines) dancing taken from a second-story window; four men pounding rice – all his photographs impart a languid rural feeling.

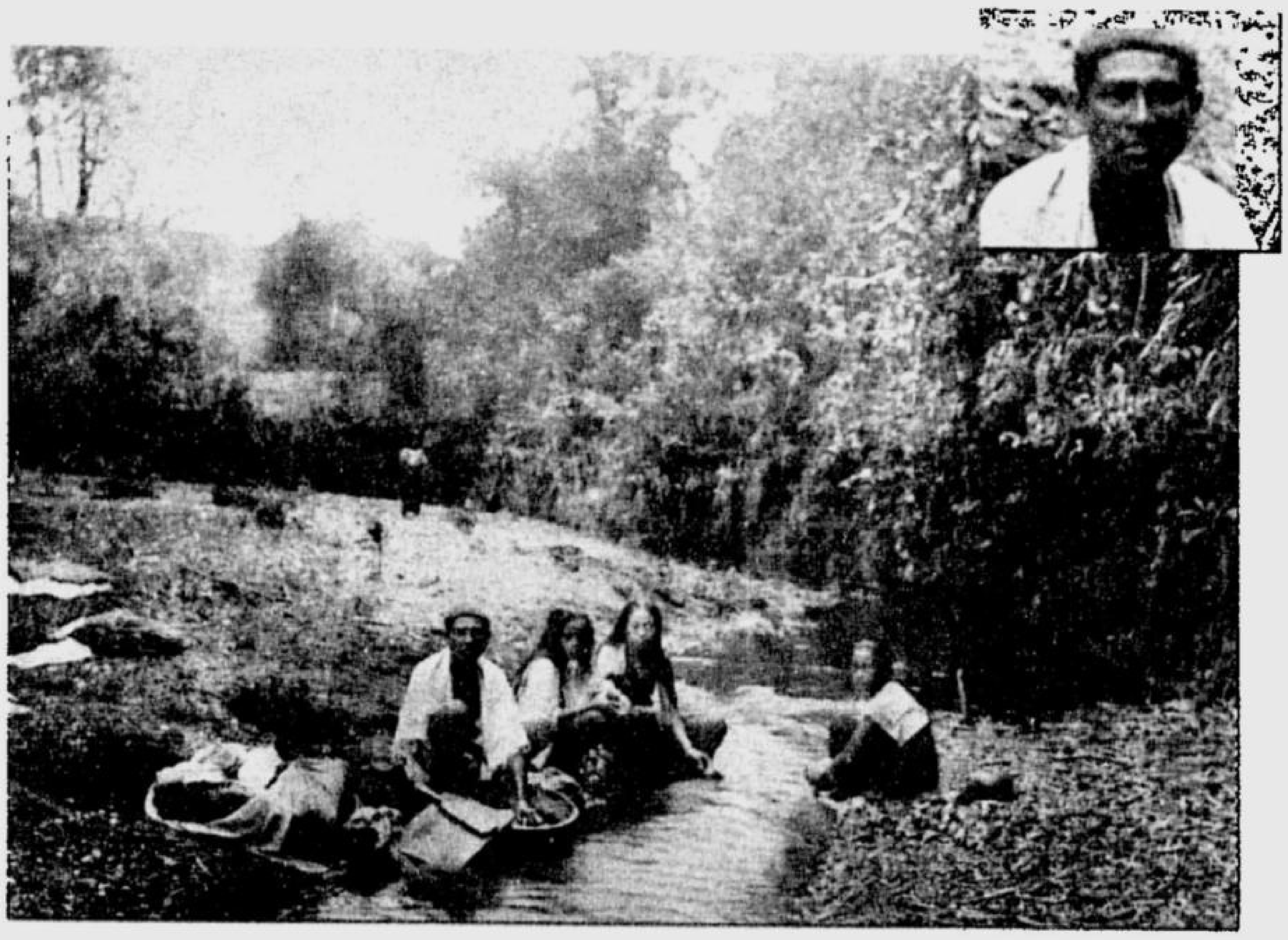
It was the photograph, titled *"Lavando la Ropa,"* an innocuous scene of three women and a man washing clothes, that would give me the exquisite joy of collecting.

Laureano describes the photos: *Tres dalagas y un tao, sentados en el verde cesped junto al borde del rio, blanquean la ropa lamiendo sus diminutos pies la cristalina corriente. El tao, cual se adivina en sus modal,* es binabayi, agui, *tiene cerca de el el* balutan *de la ropa sucia.* Agui, binabayi, es *afiminado. Balutan, lio.*

Interspersed in Spanish were the local Visayan words *binabayi* and *agui* (now spelled agi), terms for homosexuals. And to confirm it, Laureano translates the words as *"afeminado"* or effeminate.

As an Ilonggo, to read *binabayi* and *agi* was to trigger memories of my childhood and enduring the same worded taunts from macho cousins.

On a personal level, it was delightful seeing a photograph of a gay *lavandera* smacking the wash and hanging out with the girls.



Lavando la Ropa, *circa 1895, Felix Laureano, photographer. From* "Recuerdos de Filipinas," *John L. Silva collection. (Inset): A close-up smile – meant for the photographer, perhaps?*

As a historian, it was the joy of discovering my ancestor, alive over a hundred years ago, unrelated by blood, but connected through the circumstance of sexual preference.

I've gazed at the photo for long periods of time, looking at him, who in turn looks directly at the viewer. There is no hint of a limp wrist, no discerning signs, save the fact that he is engaging in an occupation reserved for women. But the modern wonders of a scanner and zoom lens betray his stolid face. Up close, there is the slightest curve of a smile and alluring eyes reserved for the photographer and viewers a century hence.

My ancestor has endured much. In ancient society sexual coupling was much looser and included homosexual liaisons. When the friars arrived, they condemned our free-spirited morals as sinful. Jose Rizal would write, "The ancient peoples did not see in it (sex) more than a natural instinct which has to be satisfied...Only Christianity made the act a mortal sin because it saw everything carnal as corrupt, bad, like something from the devil, giving rise to the horror of the flesh..."

The friars set out to punish those they caught committing acts of sodomy. A Father San Antonio, writing in the 18th century, talks of Spanish authorities capturing men and women engaging in homosexual practices and burning them at the stake. Like ancient songs, dances, religious idols, clothing, all deemed to be the handiwork of the devil, the friars tried hard to extinguish every possible remembrance and characteristic of our people.

I see much more in this late 19th century photograph of a comely gay *lavandera*. I see an elusive, wily, and still resplendent survivor of Spanish oppression setting his traps to seduce a clueless photographer.

The *lavandera*'s ability to elude being toasted makes him a prime recruit for the Katipunan. I fancy that he and other gay ancestors followed Bonifacio, who declared war against the Spaniards, particularly the friars, in order to return to the old ways.

His survival assured continuity and solves why there is today, an abundance and still growing number of Filipino gay men and lesbians, hopefully championing causes and playing an important part in making our country a beacon of diversity, tolerance, justice, good taste and high fashion. And throw in "clean clothes," lest I be accused of overlooking comely gay *lavanderas* still smacking their boyfriends' Bench underwear in some far-flung barrio river.

My little contribution to Gay Pride Day, 2001.

Poetry

Dying once, with Joanne

What beautiful treachery Sapuccoy
had that summer; a mountain swathed
pink and black, which we ascended
together on trails that plunged
sharply into clouds.

Pricked by cold and hunger,
we believed (drowsily, and trembling),
that we would go out with the passing
of the day into the night.

So I made us crouch
upon a small clearing, where drooping
orchid ladies shared our sorrow.
There, burnt pine wafted a eulogy
as we gripped torch fires newly lit

and dreamt our best, knowing
that death comes to nip life
in its budding bloom.
From misty breaths we conjured
our talismans and surrendered

them to the flames:
Wendy burgers, fries and Coke,
fat, round children, loving husbands,
black and white pictures,
thick manuscripts, growing old.

It has not been an easy climb
and I have emerged into the sun,
growing whole. I see you have plucked
your charms from the ashes too;
sweet babes swathed pink

in the summer.

Lolita Villa

Naiibang Flores De Mayo

Sa hardin ni Maria Clara'y
Muling babaha ng samu't-saring
Talulot ng pagkamulat:
Merong mga kulay pula't asul
Na'ng pamumukadkad
Ay inilaan lamang
Para sa mga banyagang bubuyog
Upang mga hardinero ng obrero'y
Mapagkalooban ng kahit konting
Katas ng mala-dolyares na halimuyak;
At ang mga dilaw, puti't iba pa'y
Namumulaklak alang-alang
Sa mga magagarang paru-paro—
Kasaganahan ng mga huwad na uod
D'on sa nagbabahagharing pangangamoy—
Magkatutubi kusa'ng inaasam-asam
Na kaladkaring paraisong paham.

Allan Mending Bodoy

Makiling

Ala-ala ko pa ang huling bahagi ng ating pag-akyat
sa bundok, nang tayo'y sapilitang gumapang
sa makapal na banig ng mga lumot at pako,
hilang pataas ang ating mga katawan sa tulong
ng mga ugat at sanga hanggang sa, hindi
halos makahinga, tayo'y tumayo na basang-basa
at giniginaw, tulad ng nag-iisang puno sa tugatog,
habang makakapal na mga ulap ang dumarating.

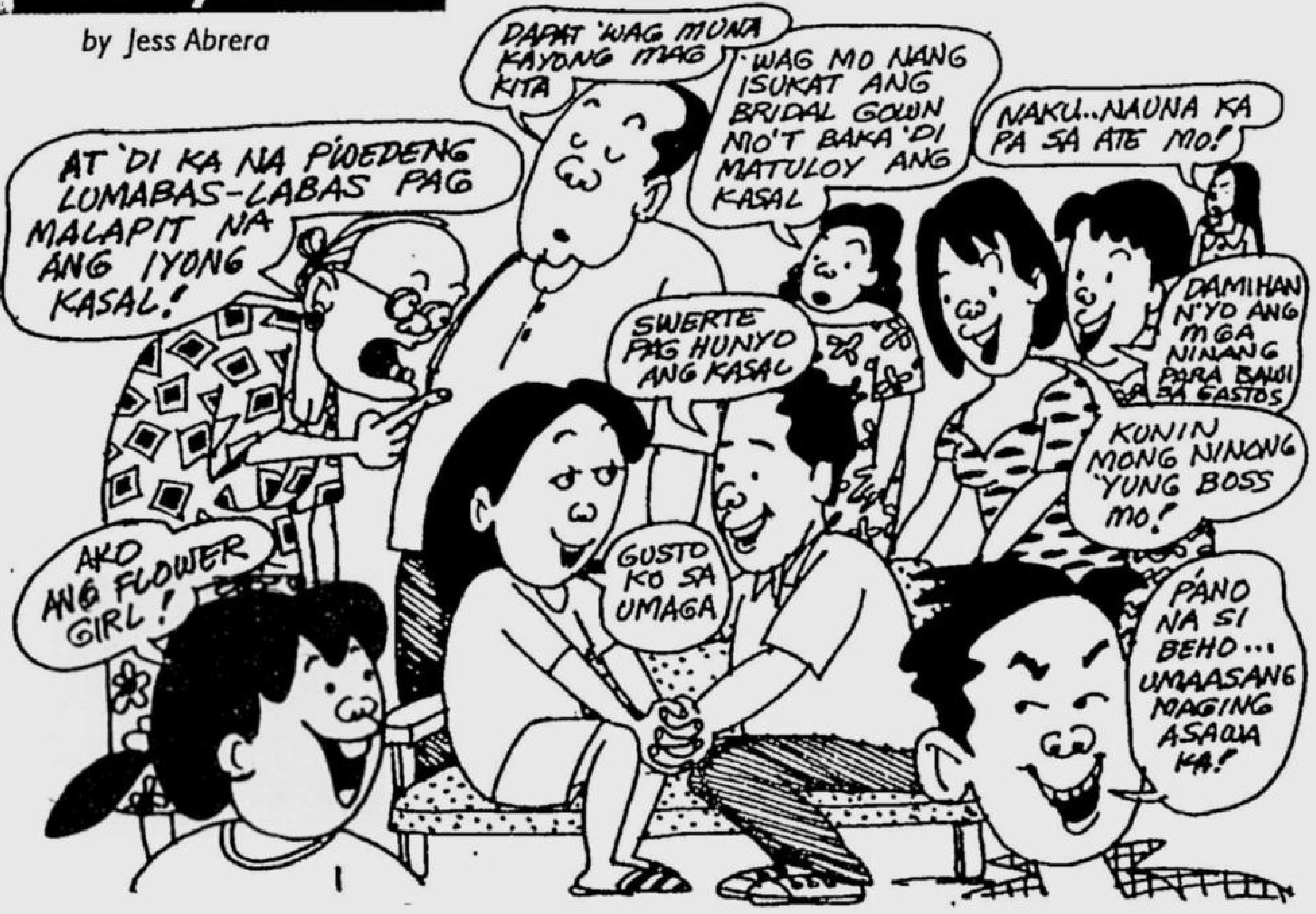
Ang liwanag ng araw ay pangubling puti,
wari'y yeladong bubog, na di nagbigay ng pananaw
lampas sa abot-kamay; di natin napanood
ang bayan at look na ating pakay sa pag-akyat.
At ang hinaing ng hangin, na siyang humiwa
sa di mapalagay na katahimikan, lamang ang
siyang bumigkas sa mga katagang di makabulas
sa ating dalawang bibig; kung ano ang ating gagawin.

Luis Cabalquinto

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Plano sa Kasal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Manuel Lito, at 6 ft 4, towers over Adam, who stands 6 ft 1. They are on first-name basis. "But with respect," Melanie qualifies. Manuel Lito is in second year college, in Mechanical Engineering at a university in Utah. Mazen, a special child, is a tall 5 ft 11.

The girls call Adam Dad. "I can have them adopted by Adam, but Adam doesn't want to take away the rights of their fathers. But he treats them like his own," says Melanie.

"I have no bitterness about my past relationships. I count my blessings and I have plenty to count. I finally have found the right man who is very sexy. He is also *maliksi*. I don't like men who are *patay-patay*. Finally know what it's like being a wife and a mother. I have great friends. I mean, what else can I ask for?

"We are alike in so many ways," Melanie continues. "We are both God-fearing. (They attend the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints). We love to pray. We both love our parents. We are both aggressive. Friends says we look alike. If I were a man, I'd be Adam."

Adam heaps her with superlatives. "I think Mel is a very traditional Filipino woman. In my opinion, Filipino women are very loyal to their husbands. They are very good homemakers, very caring to their children, and I think they love their homes. To Mel, home is very important. And I am very important to her.

"She is something special, you know. She looks different to me every morning," he says.

Adam knows of Melanie's history with failed marriages. But he is undaunted. "I am very comfortable that we can keep this as long as we maintain our religion, our spiritual concerns first. I think the thing that helps us most is that we have decided to put God first in our lives. I also believe in being together all the time.

"She is always asking me, 'Will you still love me when I'm old and wrinkled?' I told her love is not about Revlon. She says, 'Oh, you will just trade me for younger girls.' No, I will not do that. Truth is real love; if she has wrinkles, then she has wrinkles," Adam says. And as Adam says his piece, the lovely Melanie is nuzzling the back of his palm against her smooth cheek. There's not a single wrinkle – not yet, anyway.

SUBSTANCE...from page 12

from nature. "My work is nature in abstract," he explains. "They're composed of horizontal bands and organic forms. There's free form and geometry—they're almost like abstracted seascapes. They're serene, almost spiritual." Nestor sees the world as one whole canvas, where he can continuously paint his destiny. Nestor Olarte Vinluan admits that he's lucky, and thanks God for the life he's living. "I never imagined that I could make a living as painter, but I was able to raise a family by doing what I love to do. For me that's a blessing."

LUPITA...from page 10

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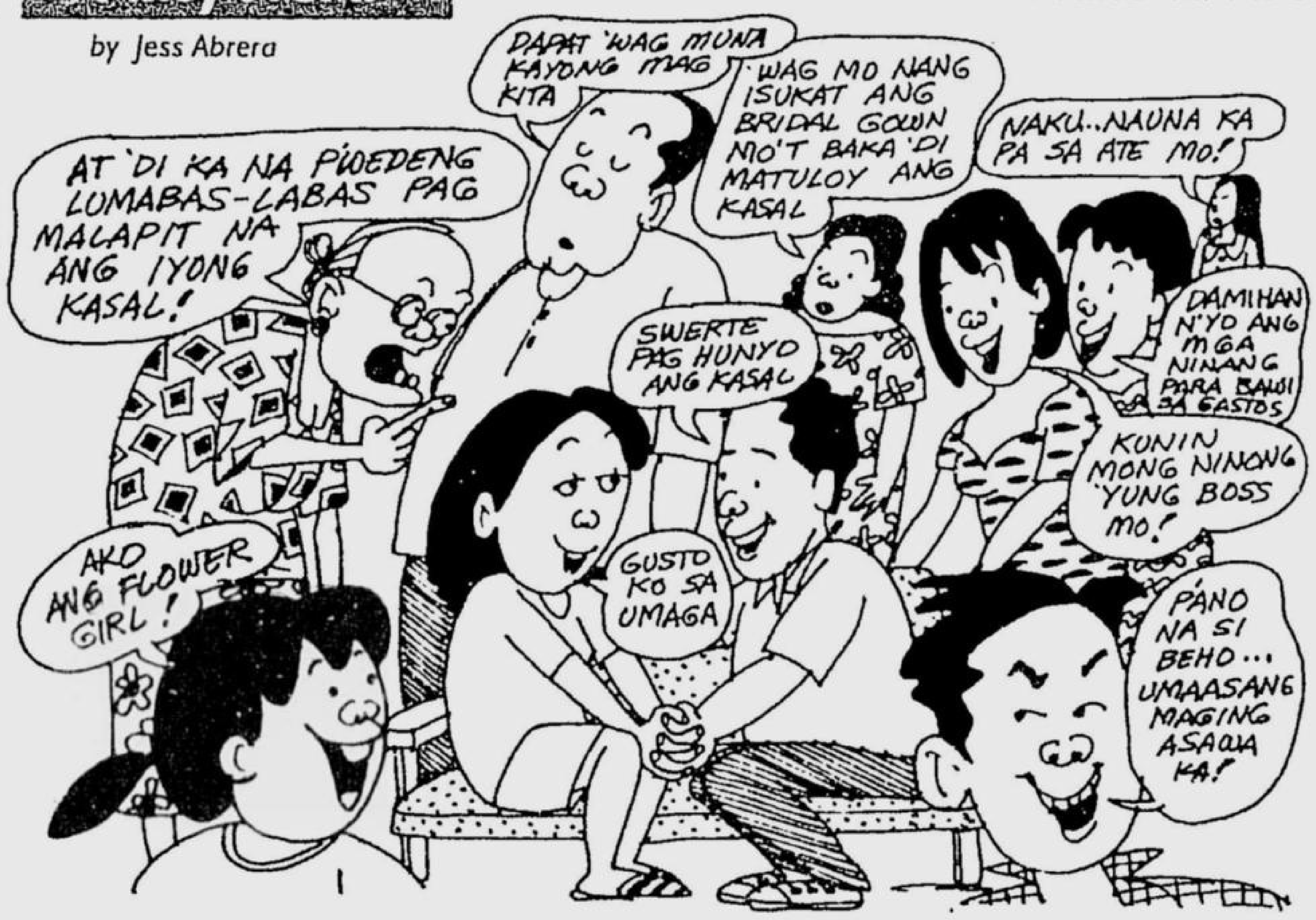
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THE MELLOWING...from page 9

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This Week

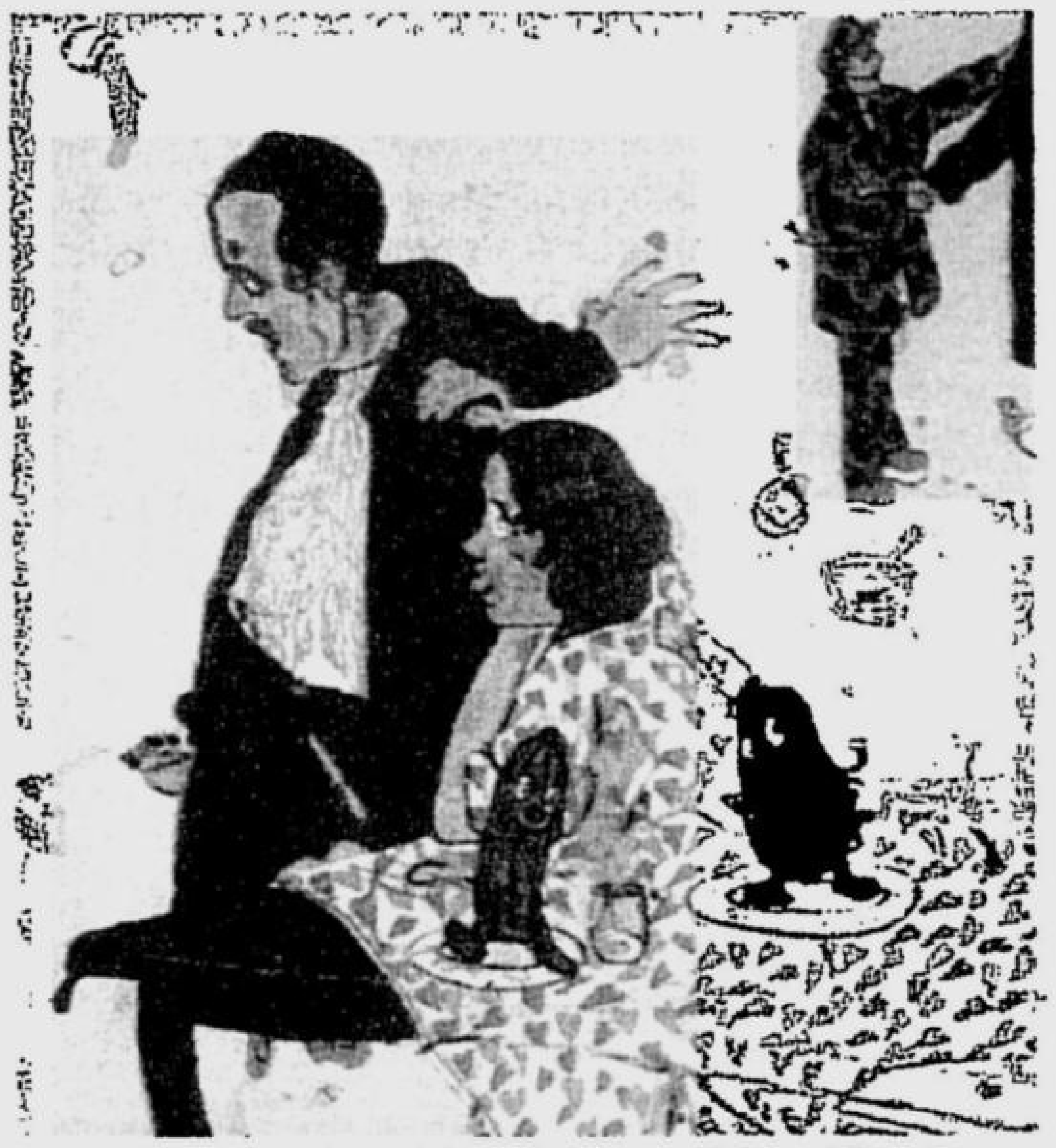
Art

Destroy-Erase-Improve, a solo exhibit by Alvin Zafra from June 3 to July 1 at Big Sky Mind, 66B Doña Juana Rodriguez, St., New Manila QC.

Crossroads, an exhibit of recent works by Francis Argente, Gerry Crudo, Angelo Magno and Migs Sagcal. Ongoing until June 30 at Bistro 110, Palanca St., Makati.

Pearl Harbor, an exhibit of World War II model planes and ships by the Philippine International Plastic Modelers Society at Robinsons Galleria and Robinsons Place Manila until June 15.

Six young **French figurative painters** hold an exhibit of new trends in visual art in France and Europe until June 30 at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila, as part of the French Spring in Manila. A lecture on modern art in France will also be given.



"On vend la maison" by Philippe Perot, on exhibit in "French Figurative Painters" at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila

Trees Bloom in Full Color, a solo exhibit by Bong Ducat ongoing till June 10 at the Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Ave., Makati City.

Walking on Eggshells, a one-man show in mixed media by Jerome Malic, and **Emo**, a group show featuring artists Carlo Gabuco, C.J.Tanedo, and Christopher Zamora, are simultaneously exhibited at the Boston Gallery, 72 Boston St., Cubao, QC until June 16.

Sunset Stories, an exhibit of large-scale acrylics by Jack Salud at Gallery 139, SM Megamall Building A until June 5.

Music

Side A band will perform in a special concert at the Padi's Mindave in Mindanao and Congressional Avenues, Quezon City on June 14. This month, top live bands perform every night at Padi's Mindave—Pido With Take One (Mondays), Mulatto (Tuesdays), Fat Session (Wednesdays), Parliament Syndicate (Thursdays), SPI and Ascension bands (Fridays), Traffic Jam and Popcycle bands (Saturdays), DV8 (Sundays). It is also inviting singers to join its nationwide search for "New Singing Superstar." For details, call 453-0080.

Documento Records, an independent record label, has released its debut CD compilation "Uno Documento Compilo" at all Tower Records branches and at MilkWear Boutique at the Power Plant, Rockwell Center. The CD includes indie music and experimental collaborations between legendary jazz trio Majam, electronica duo Rubber Inc., artists Elemento and filmmaker Roxlee. For details, call 09176030219 or email eggnest@pworld.net.ph.

The German **Rascher Saxophone Quartet** will hold a concert at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila on June 8 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call 523-7855 or 722-4671 to 72.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : Makati (893-1844) QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)
- Mayric's (412-9430)

Cinema

The Metropolitan Museum of Manila and the Goethe-Institut Manila will screen the **silhouette films of Lotte Reiniger** for free at the Met Museum auditorium from June 4-15. The films available for screening include "Carmen," "Papageno," "The Sleeping Beauty," "Caliph Stork," "The Grasshopper and the Ant," "Dr. Doolitte" and "The Adventures of Prince Achmed." For details, call 523-7855.

Titus Brandsma Center (24 Acacia St., New Manila, QC) offers free screening of the following movies on June 9, 1:30 p.m.: "Daens," "Earth" by Deepa Mehta and "To Live (Mainland China-1994)" by Zhang Yimou. For details, call 721-8677 or 726-7763.

Food

A Taste of Australia: 100 Years of Cultural Fusion, authentic Australian fare like cheeses, wines and popular dishes will be featured at the New World Renaissance Hotel's restaurants to commemorate Australia's centennial celebration until June 23.

The Heritage Hotel Manila's **Hua Ting Cantonese Restaurant** offers 20 percent discount on more than 100 a la carte and dimsum items plus a complimentary serving of roasted chicken to a minimum of four persons. The offer is good until June 30.

Caribbean Barbecue, a special treat at Holiday Inn Manila's Poolside Terrace every weekend with a buffet of fresh salads, sizzling meats and seafood and a luscious range of desserts. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2294.

New World Renaissance Hotel's Lobby Lounge features **theme lunches** everyday. A fiesta of Filipino dishes takes centerstage on Mondays and Thursdays, Tuesdays showcase Italian cuisine, Wednesdays boast of various noodle creations, and indulge in seafood selection on Fridays. For reservations, call 811-6888 ext. 3308.

For intimate tete-a-tetes, Bayview Park Hotel's Tea Lounge offers **Afternoon Tea Delights** promo available Mondays to Fridays, 3-6 p.m. for only P125 net. For inquiries, call 526-1555.

Atbp

The **Junior Ballet of the Conservatory of Paris** will hold four sets of dance performances at the CCP Main Theater on June 6 at 8 p.m. Admission is free. The group will also participate in a dance workshop with Ballet Philippines and other dance companies in Manila.

AXN unveils the **Anime Action Strip Contest** open to two categories of participants—16 and below, and 17 and above. Participants must create an adventure story that showcases the strength of the human spirit over evil forces. Entries are judged on originality of hero and creation, storyline and layout of work. Contest runs until June 15. For details, visit the website www.axn-asia.com.

Clean Body Clean Mind Health and Fitness Center is offering courses on the **Reiki Healing Method** as therapy for various illnesses at the Earthlite Center, 4/F COD Dept. Store on June 9, 16, 13 and 30. For inquiries, call 532-6395.

Bridal Talks 2001, a series of lectures that aim to help brides and grooms prepare for their wedding day. The lectures will run from June to September at the Filipinas Heritage Library Reading Room, Makati Avenue across The Peninsula Manila. For details, call 892-1801 or email events@fillib.org.ph.

FWD Domination: Survival Series at the Australian Outback, a survival challenge for those with a knack for extreme games. Contestants must outdo each other in the sports Joust (June 8 and 9) and Wall Climbing (June 15 and 16). Application forms are available at the FWD magazine office at 18F Strata 100 Bldg., Emerald Avenue, Oritgas, Pasig. For details, call 631-2859.

Mandarin Oriental Manila launches the **search for a new signature fan** which will become the hotel's new trademark. The competition is open to all Filipinos, 18 and above. The entries should reflect a uniquely Filipino identity and should be in the form of a color drawing or painting. Deadline for submission is Aug. 15. For inquiries, call 750-8888 ext. 2220 and 2437.

Holiday Inn Manila makes your **dream wedding** come true with a choice of an elegant Chinese Lauriat or the value-packed Western package. When availing of the Chinese Lauriat package, choose your honeymoon destination between Club Panoly or Lagen Island Palawan or you may opt to go out of the country and stay either at Holiday Inn Bali or Holiday Inn Hong Kong. If you choose the Western package, it's your choice to spend your honeymoon between Holiday Inn Bali or Club Panoly. For details, call 526-1212 loc. 2383 or 2385.

Araw, a quarterly magazine promoting Philippine culture and arts for young people published by the National Commission for Culture and Arts, is now available at newsstands. For inquiries, call 527-2192 loc. 507.

Extraderm Plus Exfoliant's Alagang Expert **skin care clinic mall tour** moves to SM City North Edsa from June 6-12. It offers free facial skin analysis and advice from dermatologists.

Comprehensive Candle and Mould Making Workshop for kids and adults offers basic and advance courses on gel wax, pellets, layered, hurricane and ice candles, chunk and embedded candles from June to August at Trionfi Café Arte, Herald Suites Ground Floor, 2168 Pasong Tamo, Makati City. For details, call 759-2058.

Jag Jeans is holding a big **summer sale** at all SM Dept. Stores nationwide until today. Enjoy up to 50 percent discount on selected Jag Jeans apparel.

Angel Grass, a new anti-cancer Thai herbal discovery purportedly alleviating the condition of patients suffering from liver and lung cancer, will be introduced to the public soon. For details, call 415-8714 and 781-0069 or visit Room 307 Solmac Bldg., 84 Dapitan cor. Banawe Sts., QC.

X-manila

"Balikpulong," literary readings at Casual Brew Café, Corrales Avenue Extension, Cagayan de Oro on June 16, 4-6 p.m. Featuring novelist Tony Enriquez, poets Elson Elizaga, Lina Sagaral Reyes, Raul Moldez and Happy Raagas, fictionist Shanedar Cabaraban and guest poets from Iligan. For details, call 0917-6472142.

The 1st Iloilo Theater Cafe series will open with "The Vagina Monologues" on June 8, 8 p.m. at Al Dente Italian Bar & Restaurant. Other performances are on June 9 at Al Dente, June 15 at Sisa, and June 16 at The Grillery. For details, call (033)3363828 or email uno_adv@eudoramail.com.

The 1st Iloilo Gothic Darkmusic Konvergence Concert will be held June 9 at Party Central, Marina featuring Dominion, Ganja and Vineyard. For inquiries, call (033)3363828 or email uno_adv@eudoramail.com.

Ensembles, a collage and book art exhibit at The Sanctuary Gallery at Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City until June 20. For details, call 442-4602.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.